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By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) invited yesterday afternoon Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Attorney General Edward Buckingham to this morning's Senate session to discuss the governor's executive order placing the NMI Retirement Fund under a state of emergency.

» Fitial, AG invited to today's session
» More lawmakers supporting amending Fund EO

More lawmakers now support amending the EO to "put in writing" the Fund's concern that

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NMI Retirement Fund legal counsel Christopher Timmons, right, addresses lawmakers and members of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, while Fund administrator Richard Villagomez, center, and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), left, look on during a meeting yesterday afternoon on the governor's executive order declaring the Fund under a state of emergency.

Saipan Air suspension puts off budget revision

» Gov't banking on $5M-$7M in revenues from Saipan Air

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the administration projected between $5 million and $7 million in additional tax revenues from Saipan Air's operations that would have resulted in the revision of the $102 million budget for fiscal year 2013 but this plan is off the table "for now" after Saipan Air announced Monday that it is indefinitely postponing its flights.

Inos

House Ways and Means Committee chair Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), meanwhile, said yesterday his panel has not been factoring in any additional revenue projected from Saipan Air's operation in drafting the 2013 budget bill, which he plans to pre-file next week.

But like other lawmakers, Basa said he was "disheartened" that Saipan Air's sup-

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CHC chief assures of payroll this Friday

» Housing allowance remains a challenge; five months behind this July

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Despite a severe cash-flow problem, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta assured hospital employees and staff yesterday that their payroll will be released as scheduled tomorrow.

Babauta said the corporation managed to save some monies from reimbursements collected by the Commonwealth Health Center from federally funded Medicare and Medicaid programs in addition to some revenues collected from actual hospital services.

Babauta

The corporation, Babauta disclosed, usually receives reimbursements from these two federal programs every two months. He didn't disclose the amount of the latest reimbursement but described it as significant to meet the Friday payroll.

"We were able to save money [from Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements] in anticipation of our payroll this week. This means, if we see that we're run-

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Local

Davis' lawsuit vs CEC on Article 12 dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court has dismissed for lack of jurisdiction the lawsuit filed by John H. Davis Jr., a U.S. citizen who wants to stop the Commonwealth Election Commission from denying U.S. citizens who are not of Northern Marianas descent the right to vote of any issue regarding Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution or on any other issues.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said the dismissal of Davis' lawsuit is without prejudice as she has not reached the merits.

Dismissal without prejudice is when a case is dismissed but the plaintiff is allowed to re-file a new suit on the same claim in the future.

Article 12 limits landownership in the CNMI only to those of NMI descent.

In her ruling issued Tuesday, Manglona said that Davis' injury is not actual because it does not occur until he is denied the right to vote or his ballot is disallowed. At the same time, she said Davis' injury is not imminent because no petition for initiative is on the November 2012 ballot.

Davis' complaint sets forth seven claims for relief.

Prior to the motions hearing, Manglona dismissed the Commonwealth Election Commission as not a proper defendant on any of Davis's claims.

The remaining defendants—CEC chair Frances M. Sablan, CEC executive director Robert A. Guerrero, and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial—through the Office of the Attorney General argued that the federal constitutional protections do not apply in this instance, or, alternatively, that the challenged Commonwealth laws do not violate Davis' federal constitutional rights.

The defendants also asserted that the case must be dismissed because Davis lacks standing and the issue is not ripe for adjudication.

In her ruling, Manglona said a court must dismiss an action if at any time it determines that it lacks jurisdiction.

Manglona said if David were to prevail on the merits of this case, she would not order CEC to let him register as an NMD, but would declare that he does not have to register as an NMD in order to vote.

"Because Davis is already registered to vote, he would not have to take any action to benefit from the ruling, other than to show up at the polls and cast a ballot if he so chooses. The injury would only occur, if ever, on the date of the election," Manglona pointed out.

The judge said the Commonwealth laws at issue in this case do not impair Davis' right to speak out on Article 12, to contribute his time and money to efforts to defeat or pass an Article 12 initiative, or even to sign a petition to put an initiative on the ballot.

Even if Davis' injury were imminent, Manglona said the court must nevertheless decline to exercise jurisdiction if the matter is not ripe for review.

While Davis may find it distressing to contemplate that, if an Article 12 initiative gets on the ballot, he will not be permitted to vote on it, he suffers no hardship until an initiative is "certainly impending," Manglona said.

The judge said it is now barely more than four months before the November general election.

"The 30-day window for presenting Article 12 petitions to the Commission is about to open, and close. If a petition is presented, Davis will surely have standing and the matter is ripe for adjudication," Manglona said.

BUDDING ANGLER
Congratulations to Chicko Hensus P. Arurang for your awesome catch!
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CCA yard sale draws big crowd on first week

» Teachers set major leaving-island sale

Calvary Christian Academy principal Scott Norman said he was elated by the turnout at the institution's yard sale, which drew a big crowd and sold out most of the school's desks and furniture on its first week.

CCA shut down early this month due to the continued decline in enrollment. This prompted the school to put almost everything on sale in order to terminate all its remaining expenditures and obligations. The sale began on June 18 and will run through July 3.

Norman expressed appreciation yesterday to the support extended by families and community members who participate in the yard sale. On the first week of the yard sale alone, all filing cabinets, bookshelves, and tables were sold.

He said more school materials and supplies are up for grabs—a bunch of brand new schoolbooks and library materials, including the school's overhead projectors, and other equipment. Norman said that items on sale may be used in homes, offices, and schools.

Norman hinted that the school may extend the yard sale to the week after the Liberation Day festivities.

He also announced that CCA teachers who will relocate outside the CNMI will set up a major leaving-island sale on Saturday from 7am through 12pm at the CCA campus.

Norman invited the members of the public to visit the school until the sales last. All proceeds will be used in closing out the institution.

Norman said many students are now in the process of transferring to other schools. CCA, he said, is providing full assistance to ensure a smooth transition.

The institution has been around for nearly 30 years. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Fund to lawmakers: We're not appealing bankruptcy dismissal

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez told Senate and House of Representatives members yesterday afternoon that that pension agency is not appealing a federal judge's dismissal of the Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition, to the relief of some lawmakers, although some remain skeptic.

"We are not appealing the case," Villagomez said, responding to a question from Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) in an open-door meeting in the Senate chamber on Capital Hill.

Cruz said, "Good to hear that."

As far as lawmakers were concerned, this was the first time Villagomez made such statement that the Fund will not appeal the bankruptcy petition dismissal.

Villagomez, when asked by reporters later on, reiterated that the Fund is not appealing the bankruptcy case dismissal. This was repeated by Fund counsel Chris Timmons, who was also at the meeting with lawmakers.

U.S. District Court for the NMI's Bankruptcy Division designated judge Robert J. Faris had said that the Fund is a "governmental unit" and not eligible for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) said it was a good decision on the Fund's part not to appeal the case dismissal anymore, because doing so would further drain the Fund's assets in legal fees.

"I don't know what's to be gained in appealing the case," he said.

Lawmakers pointed to reported $1.2 million in legal costs incurred by the Fund related to the bankruptcy filing. The judge has yet to issue a written ruling on the case.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, spearheading the administration's efforts, said their advice is for the Fund not to appeal the dismissal but work with the administration on the pension agency's recovery.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) said, "Saying one thing is different from doing something."

"So until they put it in writing that they will not file for appeal, I will not really believe that. I prefer they put that in writing," he said.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) said he hopes the Fund will make good on its statement that there will no longer be an appeal.

Central govt, PSS, CHC now owe CUC $9.2M

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Arrears owed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s three biggest customers—the central government, the Public School System, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.—have jumped to over $9 million, according to CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren.

Based on its latest records, Warren said that CUC's receivables from these three entities total $9.2 million.

PSS owes the largest slice of the pie, amounting to $3.8 million as of May 31, 2012.

CHC's outstanding obligation totals $3 million.

The central government, which includes its instrumentalities, owes CUC $2.5 million, while other autonomous departments owe $900,000.

The Northern Marianas College is also $70,000 in debt to CUC as of May 31.

According to Warren, CUC did receive three payments that were not factored yet in the May 31 records. He said the central government made payments since then of $728,000, while NMC paid its full arrears of $70,000. CHC, for its part, partially paid $216,000.

According to Warren, CUC received its last payments from the central government on June 20, while the public hospital made a partial payment on June 8. Public schools, meantime, made its last utility payment on May 17.

Adding these unpaid obligations to other receivables from the agency's residential and commercial customers boosts CUC's total receivables to $18.2 million as of end last month.

Records show that residential customers owe the utilities firm $6.5 million while commercial patrons owe $2.5 million as of May 31.

CUC is a nonprofit organization and its operation relies heavily on payments of power, water, and wastewater customers.

Despite these unpaid monies, CUC describes its current cash flow as positive compared to the same period last fiscal year.

Warren disclosed that for eight months ending May 31, the utilities firm had a positive cash flow of about $929,000, compared to the negative cash flow last fiscal year of $691,000. Fiscal year 2012 covers the period from Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2012.

Warren said that CUC's collection from October 2011 through May 31 totaled $60.7 million, and expects to collect about $91 million until end of the current fiscal year.

Warren attributed the current positive cash flow to "expense control and improved collection."

CUC is still under a state of emergency.

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Workshop seeks to make service members 'marketable'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Some 13 military personnel, veterans, and their family members attended the Employment Assistance Workshop hosted by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan yesterday.

The workshop, which was in conjunction with its Employment Initiative Program, was conducted by Richard C. Taitague of The Fleet & Family Support Center in Guam.

Taitague said the workshop aims to help the participants enhance their training to make them marketable, thus improving their chances to get employed.

"It's important that they take their military training and skills and translate them to civilian language so the business folks can understand what they did in the military," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

"A lot of people coming out from the military are still using the military jargon, which civilians don't understand."

Taitague noted that the workshops conducted for this purpose have resulted in many success stories for these men and women in uniform because they've turned out to be "employable."

"These guys don't realize that they're very marketable because they take their military training for granted," he emphasized.

Taitague said military members and veterans are mature, accountable, disciplined, hardworking, and possess skills and training that are to their advantage when applying for jobs.

"Employers must really consider hiring military and veterans because they serve their country, marketable, very experienced, and trained," he added.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Facilitator Richard C. Taitague is flanked by participants of the Employment Training Workshop sponsored by the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve at the Fiesta Resort & Spa yesterday.

SENATE

From Page 1

the pension agency's assets will not be used for other government programs and services.

Manglona said senators have "many questions about the reorganization plan" and would like the Fitial administration to explain its plan.

The Senate will discuss the governor's Fund EO and may take action on it today—either to amend or reject it.

During yesterday's meeting between Senate and House of Representatives members and Fund administrator Richard Villagomez and legal counsel Christopher Timmons, along with members of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, more lawmakers expressed support for amending the Fund EO.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), and Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) separately said that while the Fitial administration has been saying it will not use Fund assets for purposes other than pension, they would still like that statement included in the governor's EO, as requested by the Fund.

Others like Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), however, said they'd rather it be the administration that will amend the EO, not the Legislature.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), for her part, said she also supports amending the Fund EO, and also hopes that the governor will retain current Fund administrator Villagomez, to become director of the Fund when the pension agency is placed under the Department of Finance.

The Fund wants clarification that trust assets will be kept separate from assets of the CNMI government or its agencies and ensure at least $13 million annually in employer contributions.

CHC

From Page 1

ning short we literally cut back on all expenses," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The corporation has yet to know when the $7 million additional line of credit from Marianas Public Land Trust will be released, pending the satisfaction of some conditions and provisions in the loan agreement. A portion of these monies has been identified for employee payroll.

Babauta admitted that there had been times when employees' payroll was delayed, mainly due to financial constraints, but assured that there has never been a time when the corporation didn't actually pay this obligation.

He conceded, though, that the employees' housing allowance remains a challenge and he is non-committal if payments will also be made this week.

Employees interviewed yesterday disclosed that the corporation is behind in the release of the housing allowance by five months next week, covering the period from March to July.

Babauta said that if enough money comes in to pay even a month of this delayed allowance, "the corporation will be happy to do so."

The housing allowance is given to healthcare providers who were hired from outside the Commonwealth. Unmarried employees get $600 monthly while those with families get $800. The corporation board earlier recommended scrapping the housing allowance until October 2012 but Babauta has yet to act on this recommendation.

He admitted that the housing allowance, costing $1.2 million yearly, remains a challenge to the corporation.

"We've been struggling in that area and we're behind for several months. This Friday, let's see if we can pay them [with their housing allowance]," he said.

The corporation needs $800,000 each payroll for about 600 employees on all three islands. To meet this obligation, the organization counts on allotments from the central government. It was appropriated a mere $5 million for its operation this fiscal year. This amounts to $417,000 per month.

Saipan Tribune learned that the corporation also made regular payments for employees' benefits amounting to $200,000 monthly. These include health and life insurance premiums, retirement plan, credit union, and other personnel allotments.

SUSPENSION

From Page 1

posed business partner, Swift Air, did not make good on its promise, thereby indefinitely postponing Saipan Air's flights launch.

Inos, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* and KSPN 2 on Tuesday, said the $5 million to $7 million in additional projected revenue would have been used to restore 80 work hours biweekly.

This amount would have come from "direct and indirect tax revenues" and its multiplier effects on the economy related to Saipan Air's operations.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in his March 30 budget submission to the Legislature, said the government needs almost $7 million to lift the austerity measures in 2013.

Inos said the administration was already poised to submit to the Legislature, before July 1, a revised revenue projection of $107 million to $109 million right before Saipan's Air's announcement.

"For now, it will be off the table. But we'd like to speak more with the proponents of the project, i.e. Tan Holdings, what do they see as a possible resolution if they are going to continue the effort or they are going to go and look for other ways to do it," Inos said in an interview after signing two proclamations on Capital Hill Tuesday morning.

Inos said it is "very unfortunate" that Saipan Air, which he estimated has already invested millions in establishing a new airline, had to postpone its flight launch plans "for reasons beyond its control."

"I know that they expended a lot of resources to try to put something together, a project of this significance. I felt bad that it has come to this point and I just hope that the company will be able to work something out with their partners or find other folks who want to partner up with them and we can bring back this project to life because it is very important," he said.

'Sad day for CNMI'

Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday it's a sad day for the CNMI when Saipan Air announced the postponement of the flights because of reasons beyond Saipan Air's control.

"It's devastating news for us but we hope Tan Holdings will get out of this problem. I wish Mr. Jerry Tan and his company good luck and that they will continue to pursue this airline project. As a community and as government officials, we should also pursue other economic activities. Like what the Senate president said, I hope voters will sign the petition for the Saipan casino so it will be on the ballot. Saipan casino industry will help out economy," Palacios said.

Basa said government employees and their families have already suffered for almost two years because of the 16-hour cuts, and he is reiterating his call to support legalizing casino gaming on Saipan to help the local economy and restore the 80 hours for government employees.

"Casino is a viable revenue-generating industry," he said.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said he is optimistic that Saipan Air's flights will get off the ground eventually.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the best thing would be for the Fitial administration to meet with Saipan Air to know whether the airline sees the launching of the flights in the next few or several months, so that the government would know whether to still consider projected additional revenue sources within 2013 or not.

Manglona, just like the other officials, is hoping that Saipan Air's announcement is only a hiccup and that it will eventually launch its flights.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), for his part, said he thought the administration would be more concerned about addressing its obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund rather than in restoring 80 hours when it gets additional revenues.

"In my opinion, I prefer that the government put more money into the Retirement Fund," he said.

The government owes the Fund some $320 million in unpaid employer contributions plus interest.

Another lawmaker, who asked that his name not be published at this time, believes that $12 million, and not almost $7 million as the governor had said, is needed to restore 80 work hours biweekly, if one were to include retirement contributions.

Legal actions

Saipan Air, which is supposed to be the CNMI-based international carrier, held off its July 1 inaugural launch.

That was because its partner firm, Swift Air, defaulted on its contract agreement and Saipan Air will take legal actions as a result. Swift Air was supposed to provide the planes.

Steven P. Pixley, chief legal counsel for Tan Holdings, said Saipan Air—fully owned by Tan Holdings—is filing complaint against Swift Air in the U.S. District Court for breach of contract, misrepresentation, and fraud.

Saipan Air received notice of cancellation from Swift Air a week before Saipan Air's scheduled July 1 launching despite Saipan Air's payment of $1.26 million in security deposits and good faith negotiations with Swift Air.

Saipan Air also learned that Swift Air could not acquire certification from the Federal Aviation Administration.

'Surprising'

Inos, a former Finance secretary and former executive at Tan Holdings, said he was "surprised" to learn about Saipan Air's postponement of inaugural flights on Monday night.

"I was not aware of the sudden situation, the pullout of the aircraft arrangement and it's very unfortunate," he said.

Inos said the administration was "poised to make some adjustments in the budget, taking into account the economic benefits that will be derived as a result of those additional flights."

"Right now, this [Tuesday] morning, we have to do some major realignment of the numbers to see if it still means something that we need to adjust in the budget, and we'll see how that unfolds before the end of the day. But we were counting on the effects within the economy as a result of the additional [airline] seats to be brought about by the arrival of the Saipan Air flights starting on July 1. Now that that thing has been called off, suspended, then we have to take that into account in our communication to the Legislature," Inos said.

He said there are other factors that could help produce additional resources but they are not as significant as Saipan Air's impact on the economy.

Saipan Air initially planned to provide daily flights to Narita, Japan and four times a week to Beijing, China.

By Aug. 1, the airline had planned to offer daily flights to Osaka, Japan and thrice-a-week flights to Shenyang, China.

Expectations

House Ways and Means Committee members Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) separately said they were personally expecting a 2013 budget revision from the administration but Saipan's Air postponement of its flight launching will make any increase in projected revenue difficult, if not impossible.

"But the committee is almost done with the budget bill and we'll be prefiling it shortly. I guess the news about Saipan Air means there might not be revised budget submission from the administration," Demapan said.

Demapan also hopes that the administration will now restore the 80 work hours for all federally funded employees.

Rep. Joseph Palacios, for his part, said the Ways and Means Committee was hoping that the Department of Finance would meet with them to discuss government revenue and spending, prior to pre-filing a budget bill.

"I am so disappointed that Finance could not make the time to meet with us. We have questions about revenues from the Department of Public Lands, for example, or revenues projected from Saipan Air operations. But as of our meeting on Monday, we're sticking to the administration's budget submission," he said.

Bud White is Rotary Club's Citizen of the Year

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

His various contributions to the community earned C.E. "Bud" White the admiration and respect of the Rotary Club of Saipan, which presented him with its Citizen of the Year Award Tuesday night.

Accompanied by his wife Donna, Bud White received his plaque presented by Rotary double past president David Igitol during the installation ceremony for the club's 2012-2013 officers and directors.

White, who helped establish the Commonwealth Cancer Association and currently serves as its board president, also served on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board, helped create and served on the board of the Center for Independent Living in the CNMI, a member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, served on the Friends of the Arts board, as well as brought public radio broadcasting to Saipan and became chair of the KRNM public radio community advisory board.

Owner of White Coconut Computer Services, White also contributes to the island community by sponsoring village baseball teams and the computer repair training of 10 individuals at the Philippine Consulate General, and acting as guardian for young children.

White said he was surprised to be given the award as he was invited to Tuesday night's ceremony thinking that another person was going to receive an award. "I had no idea that this was going to happen," said White who has lived on Saipan for over three decades.

White said it is an honor to live on Saipan where he gets to enjoy nature's rewards every day. "To be part of a community, you give back to that community and it comes back ten-fold," White told *Saipan Tribune*.

Other individuals were also presented with awards at the event. Special recognition was given to David M. Sablan, founder and charter president of the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Past president Pete Igitol described Sablan as a person "who has given of himself for a very long time" to the ideals of the Rotary through his contributions to the community.

A former Guam resident, Sablan was a member of a Rotary Club in Guam even when he moved to Saipan, where he worked on establishing the Rotary Club of Saipan in 1967 and had the local chapter of the service organization chartered in 1968.

"I'm quite honored that president Pete Igitol recognized the fact that I've been with the Rotary for 55 years," said Sablan in an interview.

The Perfect Attendance award was presented to Rotarians who attended meetings and activities for 2011-2012: Glen Perez, Kim Forrester, Richard Cody, Karl Reyes, Laila Boyer, Ken Kato, and Pete Igitol.

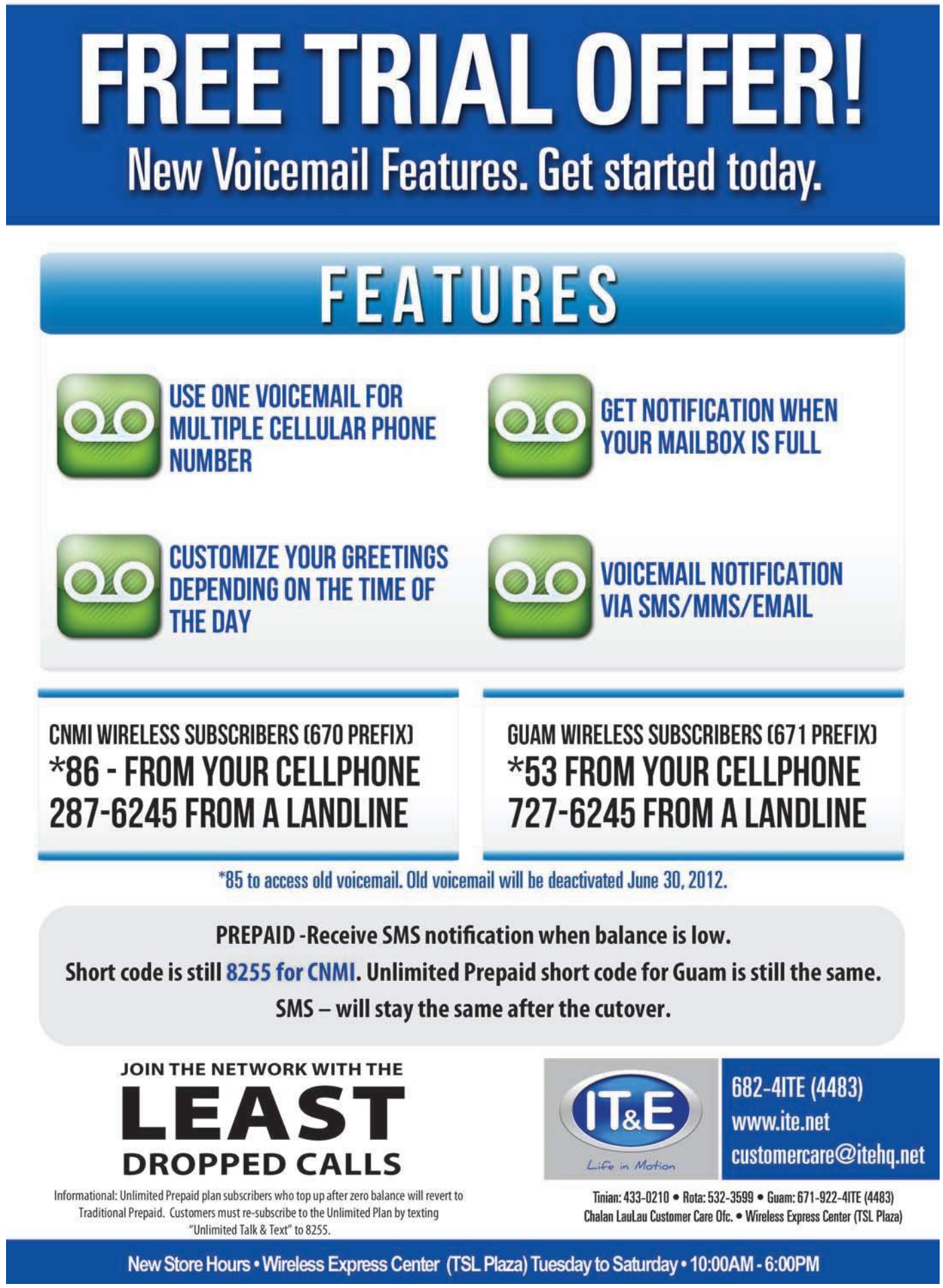
Igitol and Rotarian Timothy Bellas each received an 18-K Rotary pin for their $1,000 donation to the Rotary Foundation, which granted them the Paul Harris Fellowship, named after the Rotary founder.

The Rotarian of the Year award will be given during one of Rotary's weekly meetings at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant.

» Others recognized during installation ceremony

CLARISSA V. DAVID

C.E. "Bud" White, center, is accompanied by his wife Donna as he receives the Citizen of the Year award from Rotary Club of Saipan president Pete Shilling and Rotarians David Igitol and Pete Igitol during the installation ceremony for the organization's 2012-2013 officers and directors at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall Tuesday night.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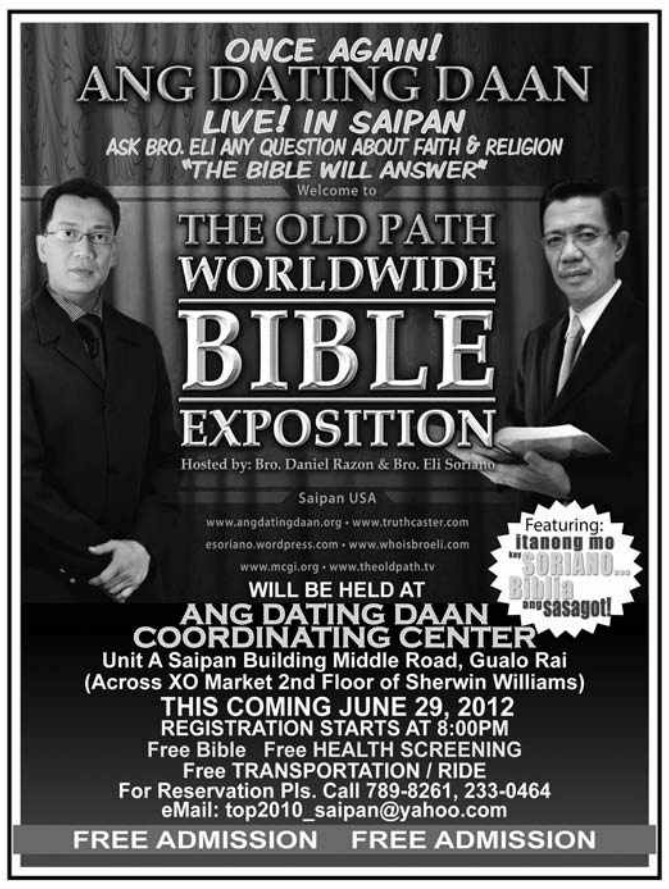
*86 - FROM YOUR CELLPHONE
287-6245 FROM A LANDLINE
GUAM WIRELESS SUBSCRIBERS (671 PREFIX)
*53 FROM YOUR CELLPHONE
727-6245 FROM A LANDLINE
*85 to access old voicemail. Old voicemail will be deactivated June 30, 2012.
PREPAID -Receive SMS notification when balance is low.
Short code is still 8255 for CNMI. Unlimited Prepaid short code for Guam is still the same.
SMS – will stay the same after the cutover.
JOIN THE NETWORK WITH THE
LEAST
DROPPED CALLS
Informational: Unlimited Prepaid plan subscribers who top up after zero balance will revert to Traditional Prepaid. Customers must re-subscribe to the Unlimited Plan by texting "Unlimited Talk & Text" to 8255.
IT&E
Life in Motion
682-4ITE (4483)
www.ite.net
customercare@itehq.net
Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483)
Chalan LauLau Customer Care Ofc. • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza)
New Store Hours • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza) Tuesday to Saturday • 10:00AM - 6:00PM


ONCE AGAIN!
ANG DATING DAAN
LIVE! IN SAIPAN
ASK BRO. ELI ANY QUESTION ABOUT FAITH & RELIGION
"THE BIBLE WILL ANSWER"
Welcome to
THE OLD PATH WORLDWIDE
BIBLE
EXPOSITION
Hosted by: Bro. Daniel Razon & Bro. Eli Soriano
Saipan USA
www.angdatingdaan.org • www.truthcaster.com
esoriano.wordpress.com • www.whoisbroeli.com
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Featuring: itanong mo kay SORIANO... Biblia ang sasagot!
WILL BE HELD AT
ANG DATING DAAN COORDINATING CENTER
Unit A Saipan Building Middle Road, Gualo Rai
(Across XO Market 2nd Floor of Sherwin Williams)
THIS COMING JUNE 29, 2012
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 8:00PM
Free Bible Free HEALTH SCREENING
Free TRANSPORTATION / RIDE
For Reservation Pls. Call 789-8261, 233-0464
eMail: top2010_saipan@yahoo.com
FREE ADMISSION FREE ADMISSION

Ex-NMC president's wrongful termination claim dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court dismissed yesterday the wrongful termination claim filed by former Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez against NMC and four then-members of the Board of Regents in connection with her being fired from the job.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman also ruled that Janet Han King, Maria Paz Castro Younis, Andrew L. Orsini, and Frank Rabauliman are not proper parties to the wrongful termination claim because they were not Fernandez's employer.

King and Younis are former regents, while Orsini and Rabauliman are sitting regents. The four are named individual defendants in Fernandez's lawsuit.

In a nine-page decision, Wiseman determined that an employer-employee relationship did not exist between the individual defendants and Fernandez.

"The fact that the individual defendants had the power to terminate plaintiff's position and determine plaintiff's salary is insufficient to raise them to the status of employer. Moreover, the individual defendants were not responsible for paying plaintiff's wages," the judge said.

Wiseman set a status conference for the case on July 12, 2012, at 1:30pm.

With the dismissal of the wrongful termination claim, the claims remaining in Fernandez's first amended complaint are breach of contract against NMC, breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing against NMC, and intentional interference with contract and economic relations against former House speaker Oscar Rasa.

Fernandez

Fernandez filed the first amended complaint on Feb. 13, 2012, three days after Wiseman dismissed Fernandez's defamation and wrongful termination claims in the original complaint. The individual defendants were not named in the wrongful termination count in the original complaint.

In response to Fernandez's first amended complaint, the defendants asked the court to dismiss the wrongful termination claim and find the individual defendants not proper parties for the claim.

The defendants argue that Fernandez failed to prove the clarity, causation, and jeopardy elements necessary to support a tort based claim for wrongful termination.

In granting the defendants' motion to dismiss, Wiseman pointed out that as far as he can surmise, Fernandez appears to be citing internal NMC policy.

"Citing to an organization's internal policy, however, is insufficient to constitute a clear public policy," said Wiseman, adding that the clarity element is not met.

The judge said that Fernandez's failure to identify the source of the public policy and consequent failure to meet the clarity element renders discussion of the jeopardy and causation elements unnecessary.

On the wrongful termination claim against the individual regents, Wiseman cited previous decisions stating that employees with authority to supervise, appoint and/or discharge other employees are not considered employers in wrongful termination claims without statutes explicitly providing for suits against supervisors.

Bidder for CUC waterline project loses appeal

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of Public Auditor last week denied Tropex Garden's appeal protesting the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s decision to award a waterline project to GPPC Inc.

Tropex Garden was among the three responders to the project.

"CUC based its decision in denying the protest on valid factors, determining that the grammatical error in its award notice letter was immaterial and that it had previously decided the protest issues raised by Tropex in its April 30, 2012 letter," stated OPA's decision in the case signed by OPA legal counsel James W. Taylor and concurred by Public Auditor Michael Pai.

OPA also found that Tropex's letter of April 3 was considered a bid protest—and not informational only—because it complained about possible defects in two other bids and was submitted after Tropex had become an aggrieved bidder.

OPA also found CUC's decision denying the company's protest filed on April 3 as valid since the defect in GPPC's bid was immaterial and the pricing calculation error was factored into the agency's award decision calculations.

Following notification from CUC that it would not be receiving the award on March 30, 2012, Tropex sent letters to CUC, considered by the utilities firm as a protest.

Tropex sent two letters to CUC in April, the first one showing claims of possible bid defect in two of the bids received by the utilities firm—from GPPC and USA Fanter.

The second letter was identified as a bona fide bid protest by Tropex alleging that CUC had improperly rank-ordered the bidders.

CUC, in its April 24 letter to Tropex Garden, denied the protest on the merits of correcting the grammatical defect in CUC's March 30 award notification letter to Tropex.

The company appealed to OPA on April 30.

Ex-convict gets 100-day sentence for scamming car rental's owner

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An ex-convict who scammed a car rental owner of $500 by deceiving the businessman that he could help recover the passports and other belongings that were stolen from a group of Chinese honeymooners pleaded guilty yesterday and was slapped with a 100-day prison term.

» Defendant prohibited from going to tourist spots, hotels

Cheyenne P. Sablan, 29, pleaded guilty to theft by deception as part of a plea agreement.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Sablan to two years in prison, all suspended except for 100 days with credit for the 70 days he has already served in jail. Since he was incarcerated on April 18, he is expected to be released on July 27.

Upon his release, Sablan will be placed on probation for three years. He was ordered to pay $500 in restitution to the victim, Zi Jian, also known as James Han, and a $500 fine, $100 court costs, and $300 probation fees.

During his probation period, Sablan is barred from going to areas frequented by tourists. These include Ladder Beach, Obyan Beach, Forbidden Island, Kingfisher Golf Course, Bird Island, Suicide Cliff, the Grotto, Banzai Cliff, Last Command Post, Marianas Resort, Aqua Resort, Wing Beach, Pau Pau Beach, Micro Beach, Hyatt Regency, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hafadai Hotel, World Resort, Kanoa Hotel, Pacific Islands Club, Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel, Coral Ocean Point, and Lau Lau Bay.

According to the plea deal, Sablan demanded $500 from Zi Jian for the return of four passports, a pilot's license, digital camera, and credit cards that were stolen from tourists at Ladder Beach on March 30, 2012.

When Han gave Sablan the $500, the defendant said he was going to get the documents but never returned.

THIS 4TH OF JULY
THEY'LL SEE YOU BEFORE YOU SEE THEM.
DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER
Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICIAL SEAL
DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SAFETY
NHTSA
www.nhtsa.gov

Shilling calls for 'peace through service' among Rotarians

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rotarian Timothy Bellas, left, inducts the Rotary Club of Saipan 2012-2013 officers and directors during the installation ceremony held Tuesday evening at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan. They are president Oliver "Pete" Shilling, vice president laila Boyer, secretary Richard Cody, treasurer Nhing Reyes, Club Services director Jay Santos, Community Services director Curtis Dancoe, Vocational Services director Kelly Butcher, International Services director Pete Igitol, Foundation director Glen Perez, and New Generation director Jeff Boyer.

Newly inducted Rotary Club of Saipan president Oliver "Pete" Shilling urged Rotarians to focus on having peace within oneself and their families to achieve "peace through service," Rotary International's theme for 2012-2013, which is vital in addressing critical issues within the community.

Shilling and other new officers and directors of the service organization officially assumed responsibility following an installation ceremony Tuesday night at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

Rotarian Timothy Bellas administered the oath for Shilling and the rest of the 2012-2013 officers and directors: vice president Laila Boyer, secretary Dick Cody, treasurer Nhing Reyes, Club Services director Jay Santos, Community Services director Curtis Dancoe, Vocational Services director Kelly Butcher, International Services director Pete Igitol, Foundation director Glen Perez, and New Generation director Jeff Boyer.

Tuesday night's ceremony also featured the exchanging of pins and passing of the gavel between Shilling and outgoing president for 2011-2012 Pete Igitol.

» Rotary installs new officers, directors for 2012-'13

Shilling, who attended the 2012 Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, said in his remarks that peace is more than just the absence of military conflict. It also denotes lack of stress and internal tension, which leads to inner peace.

There should also peace within the immediate and extended families, said Shilling, because conflict and strife in the most basic unit of society would lead to peace within the island community.

According to Shilling, the Rotary Club of Saipan plays an important role in the CNMI by working on critical issues such as conflict, poverty, and hunger.

"If we work on those issues as a club, we take one step closer to achieving peace through service," Shilling said, addressing some 50 Rotarians and guests in the audience.

Shilling shared his expectations for the Rotary Club of Saipan during his term, particularly increasing the community's awareness of the organization, which has been promoting its "Service Above Self" motto for 44 years. He said the club should avail a portion of the $15 million budget of the Rotary International to promote the club's public service and increase membership.

There should be a "concerted effort" among Rotarians to encourage one another to attend their weekly meetings, thus improving fellowship and friendship, added Shilling.

The club's purchase of a laptop, Shilling said, should enhance their efforts to maintain the club's records and history.

Shilling also vowed to continue the Rotary Club of Saipan's community projects such as the dictionaries for third graders and emphasized the need to find new ways to make funding available for these projects through new fundraising endeavors.

The new president thanked past president Igitol for his leadership, dedication, and service and presented him with a plaque. Shilling also acknowledged past club service directors and committees, saying the work of Rotary is concentrated at the committee level.

Igitol, for his part, said he looks forward to Rotary's new administration. He recounted of being worried when he accepted the responsibility of a president, which he was able to pull off with the assistance of the 2011-2012 officers and directors.

"Without these people, I would not have done anything this year. Thank you," he said.

During his term, Igitol said the club was able to share their time, talents, kindness, and resources through their projects, including the dictionaries given to public students in third grade, donations to the Vladivostok Eko Children's Hospital and the CNMI Boy Scouts of America, the sponsorship for the Youth Basketball League, annual luncheon for the *man'amko*, replacement of dilapidated swing seats at the American Memorial Park playground, partnership with the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance for the International Cleanup Day, and regular guest speakers to discuss topics of interest to the community.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Softball tourney postponed

MHS Class of 1983 softball tournament this coming June 30, 2012, will be postponed until further notice. ***(PR)***

Tinian, Rota beaches get green flag

The Division of Environmental Quality analyzed water samples collected from Tinian and Rota's recreational beaches and storm water drainages this week as part of a regularly scheduled sampling. None of the samples collected contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria nor did they exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Stands. DEQ assigns all of the sampled beach sites a green flag.

The division analyzed samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 10 locations on Saipan and 11 locations on Rota this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting
The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board
will be held on Thursday, July 12, 2012
at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan
(Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of June 4, 2012 minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings
1. None

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business
1. Update on the proposed Saipan Zoning Law of 2012

E. New Business
1. Office operations report

F. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Marian M. Guerrero, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-GOV-078
Purchase of Ground Maintenance Equipment & Tools

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the Purchase of Ground Maintenance Equipment & Tools.

The project package will be available Thursday, June 28, 2012 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on July 18, 2012 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB12-GOV-078"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, July 25, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time July 25, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 25, 2012 and must be received no later than August 7, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, August 8, 2012. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on July 25, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P & S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable asset are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is sixty **(60)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars **($100.00)**, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by sixty (60) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

Judiciary pays tribute to dedicated deputy marshal

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Judiciary on Tuesday paid tribute to Manuel Q. Tenorio Jr., a dedicated deputy marshal intern who passed away last week.

In an emotional memorial ceremony held at the CNMI Supreme Court, all judges and justices were present along with courts' staff. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona also joined the ceremony.

Tenorio's parents, Manuel C. Tenorio Sr. and Patricia Q. Echaluse, were presented with gifts: the Marshal Service Division's official uniform and memorial plaque, the Commonwealth flag, and the CNMI Judiciary's memorial plaque.

Tenorio Jr.'s siblings, relatives, and friends also attended the ceremony.

The 34-year-old Tenorio reportedly died of heart ailment last Wednesday, June 20.

In his remarks, acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro said this was his first time in the last 23 years he's been on the bench to witness the untimely passing of an active employee.

Castro said that Tenorio left without giving them the chance to thank him for the good job he did for the Judiciary. Tenorio began work at the Judiciary as deputy marshal intern on Oct. 31, 2005.

"Manny, you may not be here with us anymore, but you will always be in our thoughts and prayers. *Dang'kulo na si yu'us ma'ase* Manny for a job well done!" Castro said.

In his eulogy, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman said that Tenorio for the most part was the marshal assigned to his courtroom whenever they had jury trials and attended to other day-to-day functions in his court.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chief Marshal Anthony Benavente and the members of the CNMI Marshal's Division present the uniform and badges of Deputy Marshal Manual Q. Tenorio to his grieving mother, Patricia Q. Echaluse.

"He did so with a calm, positive learning approach coupled with a deep passion and love for the job he was doing, a job he did with a high degree of professionalism, effectiveness, and good attitude," Wiseman said.

The judge said Tenorio was always willing to learn new techniques that Wiseman would share with him about managing and conducting a trial and other proceedings.

"I was always very pleased with his service to my court," Wiseman said, adding that the marshal also attended to other judges' trials and other courtroom needs and accommodated many requests for assistance by other staff and court supervisors.

Wiseman disclosed that he and Tenorio used to have their own sign language inside the court so as not to disrupt ongoing hearings.

Wiseman also described his long relationship with Tenorio's family. He said that although Tenorio was born only four months after his arrival on Saipan in 1977, his mother was a long-term acquaintance and a former client.

"Manny's sister, Cienna, was a friend of my daughter and they were in a dance group together that performed shows at hotels," he said.

Wiseman said that Tenorio was a pleasure to work with because no matter how bad a day was or how serious a case was, he would make things okay with the other staff working with him.

"To Manny's family, friends, and co-workers, you can all be proud to have known him and that he leaves us with a memory and legacy that can be respected, endeared, and remembered in a fond manner," said the judge in concluding his eulogy.

In his remarks, Chief Marshal Anthony P. Benavente said that Tenorio was a symbol of dedication. When given an order or assignment, Tenorio would go beyond his duty and exceed all expectations, Benavente said.

Benavente said Tenorio was a marshal who gave 110 percent every time he came to work and was always ready for a challenge.

"He is a great loss to his family, friends and to the Judiciary. His service and contribution will be greatly remembered," the chief marshal said.

Mark Q. Echaluse said his brother Manny took pride in being a marshal. He said his brother was a very quiet person but the kind of person to turn to. "He would always say something to make you laugh."

"Thank you for taking care of my brother," the teary-eyed Echaluse told the Judiciary.

Funeral mass will be held at 2pm today at the Tenorio residence in San Roque. A Christian burial is planned for 3pm at the San Roque Church.

Prosecutor: Motorist no recollection of cop brutality

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A motorist who filed a police brutality lawsuit against a police officer and a former police officer failed to recall what happened when he was interviewed a day after his car crashed on the fence of a school, according to the Office of the Attorney General.

Assistant attorney general Charles E. Brasington, counsel for police officer Jerome Reyes and former police officer Regino Celis, disclosed that when interviewed by two other police officers the day after the accident, Alejandro L. Norita stated that he had blacked out.

Citing a police investigative report, Brasington said Norita told the two officers who interviewed him of having no recollection of the previous night.

"As [Norita] stated he had no recollection of that night's events, we are left to wonder as to the source of [his] allegations," said Brasington in a motion to dismiss Reyes and Celis from Norita's lawsuit.

The OAG asserts that Reyes and Celis are entitled to qualified immunity and that Norita's complaint fail to state a claim.

Norita is reportedly now paralyzed from the neck down as a result of the incident. He alleged that Reyes and Celis used excessive force in arresting him after his car crashed on the fence of the Oleai Elementary School on the evening of June 1, 2010.

Norita is suing the CNMI government, Reyes, Celis, and 10 unnamed co-defendants for assault and battery, emotional distress, violation of civil rights, negligence, unjust enrichment, and unlawful conversion.

Norita is demanding at least $100,000 in damages. His lawyer is David G. Banes.

In a motion to dismiss filed with the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Monday, Brasington said it is clear from the facts alleged and from the police report that Reyes and Celis not only had probable cause to arrest Norita but were authorized to remove him from his vehicle.

Brasington said that Celis, who was off duty at the time, was driving with his family near Joeten Dandan around 10pm on June 1, 2010, when a car with a license plate JAYJAY quickly switched from the inner westbound lane to the outer westbound lane. Celis claims that the car nearly sideswiped his car.

Shortly after, Reyes, who was driving in the opposite direction, turned around and activated the signal of his police cruiser and began pursuing Norita's vehicle. Reyes reported that he pursued the vehicle because it was traveling at high speed with its headlights off.

Brasington said the vehicle initially refused to stop, but ultimately pulled over at the CUC Waterloo.

Reyes and Celis pulled over and walked toward Norita's car but the vehicle then sped off, prompting the officers to return to their vehicles and continue the pursuit.

Brasington said that in an attempt to evade police, Norita's vehicle made an abrupt U-turn and entered a gravel road where he ultimately lost control of the car and crashed into the fence of Oleai Elementary School. The car also hit a high voltage electrical panel pole, causing the vehicle to spin 180 degrees.

Brasington said that, according to Celis, Norita refused to surrender peacefully and held on to an object that turned out to be a stereo.

Fearing for their safety, Brasington said that Celis and Reyes removed Norita from the car and handcuffed him to make sure he could not get hold of any weapon. Reyes and Celis made Norita sit upright as they tended to his wounds. The officers allegedly detected the odor of alcohol from Norita's breath.

Reyes and Celis waited until medics and police backup arrived.

"Considering the totality of this circumstances, Officers Reyes and Celis acted objectively reasonable at the time of the accident by securing [Norita]," the lawyer added.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 28, 2000

New law prohibits hunting of Paluman Tottot

Hunting of the Commonwealth bird Paluman Tottot is now prohibitive under a new law signed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on Monday. Public Law 12-8 strengthens the regulations being implemented by the Division of Fish and Wildlife to protect all bird species endemic to the Northern Marianas, he said. Likewise, the governor expressed relief that the division has reported a "healthy" and "increasing" population of Tottot, which had been excluded from the endangered list until enactment of the new law.

Business leaders lauds passage of omnibus bill

Business leaders yesterday commended the Senate for the passage of Business Reform and Labor Act despite major amendments which did not include the repeal of the three-year stay limit and the Fair Compensation Act. After marathon meetings between the Senate Committee Resources and Programs and representatives from the business sector, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Lynn Knight said she now understands why there is a need to defer the scrapping of the three-year residency limit for nonresident workers. She said she agrees with the Senate to wait for the outcome of the proposed legislation extending federal immigration laws to the Northern Marianas.

Jun. 28, 2001

Businessmen fear hike in rental fees

Beach concessions on Saipan that run watersports—ranging from jetskis, to banana boats and parasailing activities—are hoping that rental fees will remain at its current level once they tackle the issue with the government in August. The leader of the group of beach concessionaires, Jose T. Attao, fears the Office of Public Lands may increase rental fees, which would further aggravate their already shaky financial standings. He said any plans by Public Lands to assess higher rental fees would only kill the operations of beach concessions around Saipan. Attao also fears that Public Lands may bid out existing lots, which would ultimately lead to the demise of small operators.

USDA blows horn over rising delinquency rate

The US Department of Agriculture yesterday sought the assistance of local congressmen in the recovery of delinquent mortgage payments from retired government workers. USDA Rural Development Manager Joseph Diego and Farmers' Home Program representatives Steve Cruz and Howard Macaranas met with legislators to discuss the increasing mortgage delinquency rate in the Commonwealth. In a briefing held at the House of Representatives, the three USDA officials discussed the current status of the Farmers' Home Program and other related federal programs that can be made available to Northern Marianas residents.

Jun. 28, 2002

IRS, NMI tie up vs tax cheaters

The U.S. Department of Treasury's Internal Revenue Service joined other federal and local agencies in running after mainland tax evaders who fraudulently represent themselves as CNMI residents so they can take advantage of the local rebate system. The IRS has designated Victor Song of its Criminal Investigation Office as special agent-in-charge in the Commonwealth. The U.S. Attorney's Office, the CNMI Attorney General's Office and the CNMI Department of Finance have joined the IRS in the effort. A reward system that would give up to $25,000 in bounty to each informant who tips the government about the tax cheaters was put in place. Song said an informant's identity would remain confidential. He announced an IRS hotline: (670) 236-2987.

'$213M budget may be reduced'

Gov. Juan N. Babauta's $213 million budget submission for fiscal year 2003 is highly unlikely and may have to go under the legislative knife to reduce it to realistic levels. House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider stressed this yesterday, even as he agreed with the opinion of other lower chamber lawmakers that the 10-percent increase in the projected revenue for Fiscal Year 2003 is unrealistic. "We have to assess revenue generation based on historical data for the last five quarters. We can even go back to the last two years and see the trend on the availability of revenue. Based on these, it is quite difficult to come up with justification for the $213 million budget," he said.

Are you 18 years or older?

Have you been providing unpaid services to family members?

Been dependent on the income of another family member but no longer supported by that income and are you unemployed or underemployed and experiencing difficulty obtaining or upgrading employment?

If you answer "Yes" to all of these questions, contact WIA at (670) 664-1704/5, 7 & 8 (Saipan), (670) 433-1700 (Tinian), or (670) 532-1701 (Rota). You may be able to qualify for services as a Displaced Homemaker under WIA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements applies.

Dislocated Worker Funding Program

- **U.S. Citizen or Registered Alien**
- **Meet Selective Service Requirements**
- **Have received the required Eligibility for services**
- **Must be 18 years or older**

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, form employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such family close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other that training, intensive or supportive services under WIA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Tinian: (670) 433-1701 • **Rota:** (670) 532-1701
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Supreme Court rules wisely on immigration

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday correctly rejected the notion proposed by Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach and others that states can supersede the federal government and impose harsh crackdowns on immigrants.

The court's long-awaited decision on Arizona's immigration law vindicates a challenge by the Obama administration in three important areas.

Arizona cannot make it a crime for immigrants to be without identification papers showing they are in the country legally, the high court said. The state also can't make it a crime for undocumented immigrants to apply for a job. And officials can't arrest someone only because they suspect the person is in the state illegally.

The court let stand the law's noxious "show me your papers" provision, which requires law enforcement officers to try to verify a person's immigration status during a stop or arrest. This edict understandably has given rise to fears that whole groups of people will face a greater chance of being stopped on flimsy pretenses.

Justice Anthony Kennedy said more scrutiny from state and federal courts was needed to determine whether the provision is being enforced in a constitutional way.

Monday's ruling should serve as an incentive for Congress to get serious about a realistic immigration policy. And it should help to convince states that they are wasting time, money and good will by listening to Kobach, a lawyer who continually wins the confidence of elected officials, despite a near consistent record of being slapped down by courts.

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It's not over

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled Monday on the Arizona immigration law, and life as we know it continued. Both sides claimed victory in what amounts to a ruling that changes parts of the controversial law but leaves the nation no closer to an effective strategy to address immigration.

While the high court ruling primarily centered on the role of the federal government versus the responsibilities of the states, the justices left the law open to further court challenges and legal interpretation. So the heat over immigration reform rages on.

Opponents of the Arizona law say the bill promotes racial profiling of Hispanics. The statute's supporters argue it gives local and state police powers they need to help enforce federal immigration laws, since the federal government has failed to control the flow of illegal immigrants.

Both sides have a point, but there should be no doubt that it is Washington's responsibility to come up with a clear yet comprehensive set of immigration laws and policies. No state should have to take on a role that clearly falls within the federal government's purview.

Unfortunately, neither the Obama administration nor congressional Republicans have shown real commitment and leadership on this issue. Both sides seem content to slug it out rhetorically rather than compromise to address the plight of the millions of undocumented immigrants in this country.

The Supreme Court did its job and provided some clarity on the Arizona law, but the need for a federal response to reforming the nation's immigration policies remains apparent.

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Will states follow Arizona, or is anti-immigration fervor waning?

By TAMAR JACOBY
Los Angeles Times

Tamar Jacoby, a fellow at the New America Foundation, is president of ImmigrationWorks USA, a national federation of small-business owners working for better immigration law. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

The Supreme Court's immigration decision is a step back from the brink, leaving much less room than many expected for state immigration enforcement.

Although the justices blocked most provisions of Arizona's controversial 2010 policing law, they upheld the one of most concern to immigrant rights advocates: the section that requires local police to inquire about the immigration status of people they stop for other reasons and whom they suspect are in the country illegally. Even this part of the opinion is more tenuous than many expected, leaving open the possibility of future reconsideration by the court. But pessimists are still anticipating the worst—that the ruling will open the way to a host of other states itching to follow in Arizona's footsteps and pass similar punitive policing laws.

Maybe—things could play out that way. The last six years have seen a revolution in immigration lawmaking, with states across the country stepping into the vacuum created by Congress' failure to act and passing tough immigration control measures of their own.

But the fears could be exaggerated. What's coming may not be as drastic as many expect. Even before the Supreme Court's decision, there were signs that voters' anti-immigration fervor may be ebbing.

The first clue came in this year's state legislative sessions. Almost exactly a year ago, an earlier Supreme Court ruling, Whiting v. U.S. Chamber of Commerce, established that states may act to prevent and punish the hiring of unauthorized immigrants, requiring employers to enroll in E-Verify, the online federal program that checks employees' immigration status.

Last year, as now, conventional wisdom held that every state in the nation, or most, would walk through the door the court had opened, passing employer sanctions of their own. But that didn't happen. In the five years before the Whiting decision, when it wasn't clear if such mandates were legal, one-third of the states passed measures requiring some employers to use E-Verify—usually state agencies or state contractors. This year, despite the justices' express permission, not a single state enacted a law imposing E-Verify on any new employers.

The states' appetite for tough immigration policing laws also appears to be waning. After Arizona charted the way in 2010, five states—Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina and Utah—passed similar, copycat measures in 2011. But this year, no state did. Only one or two even considered it seriously. Some lawmakers were surely waiting for the Supreme Court to decide if federal law leaves room for states to act without fear of costly legal challenges. Other legislatures were preoccupied with budget issues or pressed for time in short election-year sessions. But the debate in many states revealed that a broad array of constituencies—from employers to law enforcement officials to faith groups—were concerned about the costs of Arizona-like policing laws.

Lawmakers and others across the nation have watched those costs mount in Arizona, Alabama and Georgia. Immigrant workers, legal and illegal, have fled in droves. A study by the University of Alabama estimates that as many as 80,000 unauthorized immigrants have left that state, eliminating an additional 60,000 jobs up and downstream in the local economy and costing the treasury $260 million in tax revenue. More than half the farmers and half the restaurant owners in Georgia reported experiencing labor shortages this year. Growers across the Southeast are planting fewer acres and moving away from labor-intensive crops.

And labor shortages are only one of the costs being borne by states that have enacted harsh policing laws. Even more alarming to voters and lawmakers alike: the damage to the state' reputations. In Alabama, the damage was so severe that it appeared to deter investors from putting money into a place seen as inhospitable to foreigners. And as a result, Republican Gov. Robert Bentley backed off from his support for the state's tough immigration enforcement law.

But perhaps the most dramatic evidence that the anti-immigrant fever has broken appeared in recent weeks in the wake of President Obama's surprise announcement that immigration authorities will not deport up to 1 million young people brought to the U.S. illegally as children. To say the reaction has been muted hardly captures what happened. A more accurate description would be a great collective national shrug.

Mitt Romney and other leading Republicans criticized Obama for ruling by partisan fiat, but virtually none challenged the substance of the announcement. A poll by Bloomberg News showed nearly two-thirds of the public approving. Even hard-core Republicans at Romney rallies told reporters they thought the policy made sense. "You can't send people back," said one man at a campaign stop in Troy, Ohio. "I don't hate immigrants," said a woman. "I don't think there's anything wrong with" the Obama decision.

What does this mean for the future? This could be the beginning of the end of the battle. The tide of public opinion could be turning on immigration.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Pax Amerikana

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Peace, that elusive state of tranquility and equanimity so widely desired, comes in various imaginal packages. The demand of empires has always been "order" as a precondition to peace. The rule of law must prevail. The gift of the Macedonian Alexander and Rome's Caesars was that, after conquest of a territory, the victors turned around and hand back the reins of power to the locals who then willingly submit allegiance and obeisance to the distant rule of the conqueror.

American military presence around the world to maintain global order has been a feature of our world since after World War II.

The peace of the Holy Roman Empire that accompanied the reign of the Holy Roman Catholic Church was supposed to be the "peace that passeth all understanding" in the salvific act of the messianic Christ and the sacrificial style of the crucified Jesus. In reality, the understanding was clear; the taxes belonged to the ruler's coffers while one's soul and real estate belonged to the Church. There was no question that in all the roads that led to Rome were seen the regular and profitable traffic of silver and silk.

As Edward Gibbons commented in his monumental *The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire,* "The influence of the clergy, in an age of superstition, might be usefully employed to assert the rights of mankind; but so intimate is the connection between the throne and the altar that the banner of the church has very seldom been seen on the side of the people." It appears from current actuations of the Vatican, nothing much has changed.

Gibbon' Pax Romana gave way to Pax Britannia. Much earlier, Pax Mongolia knocked at Vienna's door. After WWII, we saw the Bear east of the Rhine assert what was prior to the fall of the Berlin wall, Pax Sovietica, often written during the Cold War as Pax Sovietika. In that same period, we saw the resurgence of the notion of "American exceptionalism," the Puritan's "light upon the hill" that was later translated in the Methodists' missional "manifest destiny" that saw an outpouring of social activism around the world.

Christian disciples of the Latter-day Saints ironically experienced themselves as the newly persecuted but they latched on to the image of a New Israel of the chosen people in a new Covenant. Pax America found its mission. The Mormons settled for Utah.

In a rare strain of skepticism, Gibbons mused: "History...is ... little more than the register of the crimes, follies, and misfortune of mankind. ...If we contrast the rapid progress of [the] mischievous discovery [of gunpowder] with the slow and laborious advances of reason, science, and the arts of peace, a philosopher, according to his temper, will laugh or weep at the folly of mankind."

We are not laughing. It was a t-shirt emblazoned with "Pax Amerika" we saw in Dallas, Texas (of all places) in the '60s that mocked and tarnished what it took us a long time to recognize as America's liberal social activism expressed in the ways of imperial political (decision making) and military (coercive imposition of order) rule.

Gibbons' work was published just when American independence was birthed. With Alex Tocqueville's favorable take on the new land of freedom, it was not difficult to see the country flourish as the land of the free and the brave.

Here lies our split personality, for while it is the Statue of Liberty's self-story articulated by Emma Lazarus' sonnet that claims our allegiance:

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses, yearning to breath free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door,"

we also tend to pull the trigger on the advance technology that arose with the discovery of the gunpowder. It is from Tinian that we assembled and delivered the only instances of atomic fusion used on a civilian population over the skies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The American Empire is fast receding. Its financial base once preeminent in the global economy is under serious scrutiny at home and abroad. Its military might used to protect that base has become a fat puppy whose Spartan leanness, though still effective in such maneuvers as the elimination of Osama bin Laden, has become not only too expensive in the use of drones, and the cumbersome military base dependence on other people's real estate. The military-industrial complex Ike warned us about who presides over the earth.

But the U.S. political gridlock and economic shaking of foundations are child's play compared to the dark night of the soul of the American spirit. Only last week, the U.S. assisted in the legal but questionable deposing of Paraguay's duly elected president because he was too much on the left, reminiscent though not as gory as the summary silencing of Chile's Allende in the '60s.

Obama, vilified as a socialist (Marx is turning over in his grave) and Muslim (*salaam malaikum*), suddenly finds his presidency on a tenuous grip of the popular hope for change that characterized his election to the office.

We are in the American dark night of the soul. Some have taken the "black hole" energy that comes with authentically recognizing the state, and begin the work on Pax Gaia.

Meanwhile, Pax Amerikana is dead! You are invited to the funeral.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Politics: A problem for the CNMI

The article about Commonwealth Health Center CEO Juan Babauta that appeared in the June 27, 2012, edition of the *Saipan Tribune* is an example of what is wrong with the CNMI: politics. The people should be working together as teams to make progress as a community. Babauta is a Republican supported by the governor. Delegate Kilili, an independent, is supported by the people. The fact that Babauta wants to exclude Kilili from getting any credit for the Kagman Community Health Center grant is politics and that is questionable. Babauta is right to point out all the key people that he thinks made contributions to getting the grant. Everyone had a role to play and as far as I can see the roles were played very well, congratulations! Kilili played his role too. He represented the CNMI to the federal government and I am certain that helped with the award. He also made the announcement that the grant was awarded. That is his job too.

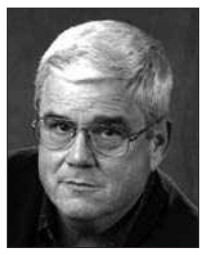
Mr. Babauta's quote in the last paragraph of the article asserts that Kilili took the grant authors' names off the grant proposal and put in his own. That would be plagiarism. He did not do this and he has been wrongly accused. Wikipedia says: "Plagiarism is defined in dictionaries as the "wrongful appropriation," "close imitation," or "purloining and publication" of another author's "language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions," and the representation of them as one's own original work." Kilili did not do this and I think Mr. Babauta should apologize to Kilili. It is clear that Kilili never tried to take credit for all the work done to get the grant; he was one member of the team that helped.

The politics between political parties, families, villages, religions, and segments of our society like business/politicians should be synergistic, helping to be better, and not destructive as Babauta seems. It is past the time when the people of the CNMI should be working together to solve their problems and to work in harmony.

The CNMI government is failing, that should be clear to everyone. If the people who are residents of our islands want to point fingers to place blame, point them at yourselves. You elected the government that has created our current economic and social disaster. I feel that Mr. Babauta should be celebrating a success, not "correcting the record" for political reasons.

Frank Stewart
Capital Hill, Saipan

Do conservatives have more discerning moral palates?



By KEVIN HORRIGAN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Kevin Horrigan is a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. *Readers may write to him at:* St. Louis Post-Dispatch, *900 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101, or email him at khorrigan@post-dispatch.com.*

In the June 5 edition of the British newspaper *The Guardian*, American psychologist Jonathan Haidt suggested that political conservatives "have a broader moral palate than the liberals (as we call leftists in the United States).

"Think about it this way," Haidt continued. "Our tongues have taste buds that are responsive to five classes of chemicals, which we perceive as sweet, sour, salty, bitter, and savory. Sweetness is generally the most appealing of the five tastes, but when it comes to a serious meal, most people want more than that.

"In the same way, you can think of the moral mind as being like a tongue that is sensitive to a variety of moral flavors."

Haidt goes on to say that he and his colleagues have identified six moral "taste buds." On the "sweet vs. sour" scale, a liberal's "moral palate" is more sensitive to issues of "care vs. harm" than a conservative's. That is, liberals care more than conservatives about whether people are being cared for or harmed.

But care/harm is only one of the six moral taste buds, Haidt says. On other issues—fairness/cheating, liberty/oppression, loyalty/betrayal, authority/subversion and sanctity/degradation—conservatives tend to have more sophisticated palates.

"(O)n matters relating to group loyalty, respect for authority and sanctity (treating things as sacred and untouchable, not only in the context of religion), it sometimes seems that liberals lack the moral taste buds, or at least, their moral 'cuisine' makes less use of them," Haidt wrote.

Since reading this, I have been desperately worried about my moral palate. Did I ruin it by worrying too much about poor people and not enough about terrible encroachments upon my personal liberty, such as red-light cameras, or the degradation caused by the booze-soaked hook-up culture?

I've already ruined my regular palate, destroying its appreciation for subtle flavors by pounding down le cuisine du QuikTrip. So when I read a restaurant review that said, "When he blends bergamot with grapefruit and other citrus for lobster, or jalapeño with lime for fluke sashimi, the nip of acidity will touch down precisely on this spot of your tongue, and nowhere else," I think, huh? That precise spot of my tongue no longer exists.

And wine! Oh, the swill I've swilled. Though, to read Jonah Lehrer's piece in the May 24 edition of *The New Yorker*, it probably didn't hurt. In a recent blind tasting, some of the finest vintages from France only barely outscored cheap wines from ... New Jersey. When it comes to wine, the most important predictor of quality ratings is label and price, not necessarily the taste.

Which, come to think of it, is precisely what Jonathan Haidt, Mr. Moral Palate, says about people's assessments of just about everything: "One of the most robust findings in social psychology is that people find ways to believe whatever they want to believe," he wrote in *The Guardian*.

Haidt says that conservatives, even those who have been savaged by predatory plutocrats, have plenty of perfectly good reasons to vote Republican. Their moral palates are more finely attuned, he says, enabling them to get past the facts that their net worth has plummeted, that children are going hungry and that 93 percent of the new wealth created in 2010 went to the richest 1 percent of Americans.

Liberals get hung up on fairness and caring for people, like a teenager who eats nothing but delicious Doritos Locos Tacos. Meanwhile, conservatives who fear the collapse of society "want order and national greatness, not a more nurturing government."

Thus, even though a conservative may be struggling to pay his bills, his refined palate helps him appreciate the subtle flavors of throwing immigrant children out of the country, closing strip clubs and making sure everyone who wants a dozen AK-47s can buy them without a bunch of nanny-state intrusion.

"In focusing so much on the needy, the left often fails to address—and sometimes violates—other moral needs, hopes and concerns," Haidt says.

Haidt has been teaching at the University of Virginia, but he recently moved to New York University's Stern School of Business. It will not surprise you to learn that he's also selling a book, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion,* which explores his ideas in detail.

He and some colleagues also have a website, YourMorals.org, where you can fill out a survey and test your own morality. I discovered I'm less interested in caring/harm than most liberals and only slightly more interested than most conservatives. Compared to both liberals and conservatives, I'm way more interested in fairness, less interested in loyalty and more respectful of authority. On the sanctity/degradation taste bud, my palate is slightly more pure than conservatives', but twice as pure as liberals'.

Now, if you'll step back, I need to rinse out my mouth and spit.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

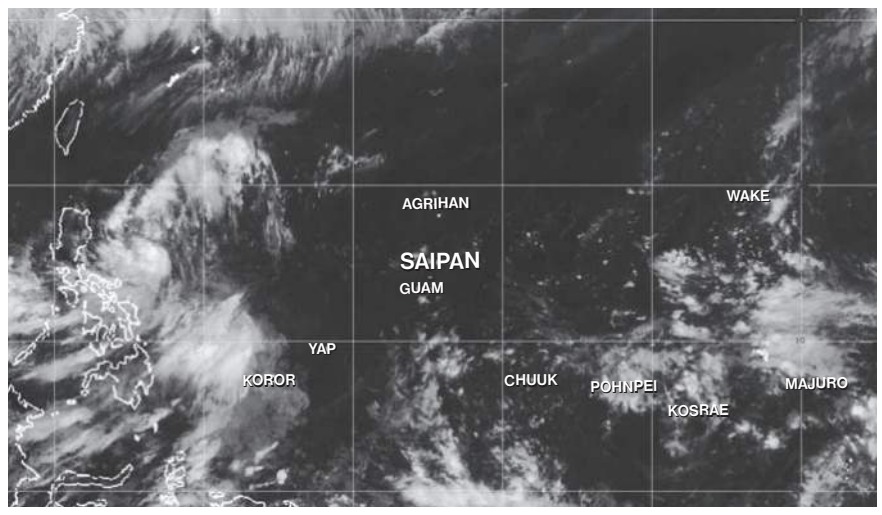
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲92	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲60	▼54
Beijing	Showers	▲74	▼67
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼73
London	Showers	▲76	▼58
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Sunny	▲82	▼65
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼69
Paris	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼63
Pusan	Windy	▲77	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲90	▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲77	▼51
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67	▼52
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼70
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲76	▼66
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲90	▼70

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Doksuri 07W is well northwest of Yap and east of Luzon at 16N127E. A monsoon trough extends southeastward from Doksuri passing north of Yap to another circulation southeast of Chuuk at 4N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are west of a line from 23N133E to 18N133E and across Palau to the west of a line from 13N134E to 5N137E to EQ135E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are west and south of Chuuk between the equator and 10N from 143E to 148E and south of 3N from 150E to 154E. For more information on Tropical Storm Doksuri refer to WTPN31 PGTW from the Joint Typhoon Warning Center. A surface trough across Pohnpei extends northeast from 6N157E to 10N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 100 miles of the trough. Another surface trough northwest of Kwajalein extends from 8N171E to 14N169E with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 150 miles of the trough. A trade-wind disturbance southeast of Majuro is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of a line from EQ170E to 6N173E to 8N178E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
9:45 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
3:50 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
9:06 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:10 PM	12:21 AM
Friday	2:10 PM	1:08 AM
Saturday	3:12 PM	1:59 AM
Sunday	4:15 PM	2:54 AM
Monday	5:18 PM	3:54 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

'Happy Children in Paradise' turns 13

One of the Marianas Visitors Authority's longest-standing promotional campaigns turns 13 this year, as Happy Children in Paradise prepares for its annual summer launch on Monday, July 1.

The campaign provides Saipanda backpacks to all visiting children ages 11 and younger as a souvenir of their visit to the Northern Mariana Islands during the summer months and at Christmas time. The MVA expects to give away approximately 11,000 of the 13th anniversary backpacks to happy kids this year.

"The campaign was launched to familiarize children and their families with the Saipan name, and it is working," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "Saipanda has become a household name in Japan and is widely known in Korea, as well. He even receives his own invitation to events in Japan! The kids, and those young at heart, seem to love the Saipanda character and want one of the backpacks."

MVA

The 13th year edition of the Saipan-da! backpack for 2012. The Marianas Visitors Authority expects to distribute 11,000 of the backpacks to visiting children this year as part of its Happy Children in Paradise campaign.

The summer campaign will run though Sept. 30, 2012. Participating hotels will distribute coupons to qualified guests during the period. The coupons will be redeemable at the DFS Galleria Saipan Corner, where a live action Saipanda will greet guests and be available for picture taking.

The name Saipanda is a triple play on words in English and Japanese: "sai" means rhinoceros, the panda bear, and the destination name Saipan. The whole word Saipan-da means "Saipan is it!" in Japanese, or "Saipan's the place to be!" ***(MVA)***

Korea's 'Jungle Love' to bring NMI $18M ad exposure

Jungle Love, one of Korea's new reality dating shows, has arrived in the Northern Mariana Islands for a 16-day shoot that will result in $18 million in advertising exposure for this western Pacific beach resort destination.

Jungle Love is produced by Sim Story Production and will air on MBC TV, one of three major network TV channels in Korea. The show features participants searching for true love while trying to survive in a wild jungle. Five episodes of the show will be filmed on Aguiguan (Goat Island), an uninhabited island near Tinian, with 10 participants enduring the hardships of the jungle and learning to survive. Following their journey to Aguiguan, the participants will test whether their newfound love will blossom into something long-lasting on the beautiful beaches and casino resort of nearby Tinian.

The cast and crew are accompanied by two Korean-speaking staff members of the Marianas Visitors Authority to facilitate the filming.

"*Jungle Love* is a tremendous advertising opportunity for the Northern Marianas and Tinian, in particular," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "In addition to enhancing awareness of Tinian in Korea, it also introduces Aguiguan as an adventurous eco-travel destination."

The filming is also supported by Asiana Airlines and Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino. The show is scheduled to air in August 2012. ***(MVA)***

CLASS REUNION

The members of the Marianas High School Class of 1992 are seen here during a group photo taken at the 10th reunion in 2002. This Saturday, June 30, 2012, the Class of 1992 will be celebrating its 20th reunion. All classmates and former classmates are invited to the 20th Year Reunion Ball. Tickets are only $20 each and includes dinner and beverages (including wine and beer). Purchase your ticket by contacting Daisy at 287-3249 or Cherlyn at 237-3201. You can also email Jessica at butterspirit@yahoo.com, Cherlyn at saipansmile@gmail.com or Daisy at daisy_mendiola@yahoo.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Steph C. Sablan! On your special day, we wish you a day surrounded by loved ones, sweet surprises and continuous blessings from up above. We love you and our truly blessed to have you in our lives. We hope you have a great one! God bless and enjoy!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

It is difficult to make a birthday wish for a 1-year-old who can't read or write. But this wish is special because it is full of love, warmth, and a lot of hugs and kisses for our little bundle of joy. Wishing you a very happy first birthday, Chance Justice, aka CJ, who turns *numero uno* today, June 28, 2012! With love, the Sablan and Chong families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our baby Wil-Leina Antonette! May your day with lots of love and kisses. We love you forever, baby! Love always, Mommy, Daddy, Nana, Tun and your Boss Nini.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to the most amazing woman in our lives, Mama Tona! Have an amazing day filled with lots of love, hugs and kisses. Cheers to all that you've done for us! We love you forever, Mom! Love always, your *kiridas* Lorena and Sammy, your *kiridus* Vince, Andrew, and JD and, of course, your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Bobby P. Vidal, who is celebrating his special day today, June 28, 2012! You're a very special boy who's one, watching you grow is so much fun. You're just as sweet as apple pie, have a great birthday little guy! Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 65th birthday to Merlita C. Montano, who is celebrating her special day today, June 28, 2012! We wish you good health and long life! We love you! Greetings come from Jane Montano, Jemo, Jerome and Janvir.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Aon sponsors $25K hole-in-one prize for NMC Foundation Open

In its commitment to advance higher education in the CNMI, Aon Insurance Micronesia is sponsoring a $25,000 hole-in-one prize for the upcoming 10th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament scheduled for this Saturday, June 30, 2012. The lucky golfer who makes a hole-in-one at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort's Hole No. 13 at the West Course will win the $25,000 prize.

"Advancing and garnering support for higher education is something we are very much committed to," said Aon regional director Rod Rankin. "We are excited to be a part of the NMC Foundation's efforts to enhance opportunities for college students in the CNMI."

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to the advancement of opportunities in support of higher education for people in the CNMI. The golf tournament is the NMC Foundation's signature event that raises funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

"As in past tournaments, Aon's contribution will definitely help make this Saturday's event a successful one," said NMC Foundation president Ivan Quichocho. "We are grateful for the company's continued support of the college and the foundation."

The golf tournament will be held at the LaoLao Bay Golf Resort (West Course) with a showtime of 6am and shotgun start at 7am and will follow a medal play format. There will be six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

Registration forms for the golf tournament can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu, or picked up at the Marianas Country Club, Saipan Country Club, Dandan Golf Range, Kingfisher Golf Links, and All Star Sporting Goods.

The entrance fee is $95 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort, Triple J Motors, and the NMC Cashier.

Tournament prizes for first place for each of the six flights include cash and roundtrip tickets to various destinations in the Pacific on United Airlines. Additional hole-in-one prizes include a 2012 Hyundai Elantra donated by Triple J Motors, a roundtrip ticket on United Airlines, and one year of free golf at the LaoLao Bay Golf Resort.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or call 234-5498 Ext. 1050. ***(NMC)***

Igisomar lauds HHS regional chief for nearly $70K grant

Health and Human Services recently made available close to $700,000 to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial under the federal grant "Health Premium Review – Cycle I," after CNMI Insurance Commissioner Sixto K. Igisomar and Rate Review administrator John S. Blanco met with HHS grant representatives in Little Rock, Arkansas on June 13.

In his letter to HHS Region 9 Regional Director Herb K. Schultz, Igisomar, who is also the Commerce secretary, applauded Schultz for the outreach guidance and support through his office, and for his patience. Schultz concurrently serves as Federal Regional Council Region 9 chairman. Through his leadership, and at the urging of Fitial, he was able to bring together leaders of the territories in the Pacific to discuss opportunities and challenges facing the islands, and most especially healthcare matters.

Igisomar stated, "As complicated as Obamacare is, coupled with our current austerity measures and lack of staff and resources, it was actually through the initial contact of Gov. Fitial and chairman Schultz that gave us faith and comfort that we can actually come close to understanding the implementation of the law."

This grant serves as an advocate to provide a mechanism to control health care premium costs by insurance companies. Before any health insurance company adds additional charges on top of the current insureds' premium, it must first be reviewed and approved by the department's Rate Review Office with the assistance of this grant.

"The good news is we are now able to have an overall assessment and review of our current rate review processes. This is an opportunity to get online with the NAIC System for Electronic Rate and Form Filing, using the services of actuaries, and consider expansion into consumer outreach via the web or social media," added Blanco.

"Currently, the Medical Loss Ratio may have showed that one of our carriers will be rebating close to $300,000 for overcharged insurance rates. However, the current carrier is indeed the one that issues rebate every year, and so this is not of significant news," said Charlotte Borja of the Commerce's Insurance Division. "It would be interesting to see the results when administrator Blanco processes all the carriers to correct premium disparity and practices amongst carriers in the CNMI."

Borja is one of the key individuals assigned to assist Igisomar with all NAIC and HHS updates. ***(Office of the Governor)***

TRAVELOGUE

88 fun things to see and do in Guam: *Part 2*

A man makes his way up to Asan Bay Overlook – one of the best tourist attractions in Apra Harbor with its spectacular views, monuments and a World War II memorial site –during a Guam Boonie Stompers' combo hike to Invasion Route and Tony's Falls. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
Reporter

Second of a five-part series

19 Latte Stone Park. Found nowhere else in the world, latte stones are pillars on which ancient Chamorro houses were constructed as early as 500 A.D. They have become enduring landmarks of Guam and the CNMI, as well as a symbol of Chamorro identity. One of the good places in Guam to marvel at these ancient pillars is the Latte Stone Park in central Hagatna. Don't forget to snap some photos.

Latte Stone Park, renamed the Sen. Angel Leon Guerrero Santos Latte Memorial Park in 2005, contains eight latte stones that the U.S. military transferred from their original locations in Guam's southern interior as new military bases were being built in these locations.

Original latte stones were composed of two pieces: a supporting column made of coral limestone, capped by a hemispherical stone with the flat side facing up and made of coral heads. Latte stones were believed to be placed in parallel rows of three to seven latte stones per row.

20 Top of the Reef. Located atop Guam Reef Hotel, this cocktail lounge is one of the best places to be for nighttime vistas Tumon has to offer, topped with good cocktails and drinks, great food, and mellow music. Top of the Reef is one of the more romantic spots I've ever been to in Guam, and I highly recommend it.

21 Inarajan Pools. Feel like diving in or taking a plunge? Head to Inarajan Pools. A child or adult jumping off from a diving platform is one of the most photographed moments at these natural tide pools that are also great for swimming and snorkeling.

Serving as natural shields from big waves are coral outcroppings rising 15 to 20 feet. Even in its shallowest parts, one could see different sea life forms. The spot also boasts of pavilions and barbecue pits for that complete island picnic experience.

A woman jumps off a cliff and into the waters of Tony's Falls as other hikers look on. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

22 Tumon Bay. Stroll its full length in the morning or by sunset. Dubbed "Guam's favorite coastal playground," Tumon Bay has the best stretch of beaches on the whole island with its white sands, sparkling azure waters, and towering green cliffs. Day or night, Tumon Bay always has something to offer visitors—swimming, sun tanning, sipping a drink at a beach bar, partaking in a sumptuous meal at a restaurant right along the beach while listening to island music.

A view of the beautiful Umatac Bay through an opening in the Spanish-era Fort Nuestra Senora de la Soledad. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Because it is protected by a natural reef that stretches out about 1 mile from the beach shore, Tumon Bay is ideal for swimming, snorkeling, windsurfing, kayaking, and other water activities.

Lining Tumon Bay are some of the island's most popular hotels such as Hyatt Regency Guam, Guam Reef Hotel, Outrigger Guam Resort, Hilton Guam Resort & Spa, Nikko Hotel, Guam Marriott Resort & Spa, Pacific Islands Club, and Fiesta Resort Guam. These hotels, along with beach bars and restaurants, illuminate Tumon Bay's shore at night.

23 Tower of London. This is an English pub in Tumon known for its widest selection of beers from all over the world.

24 Invasion Route and Tony's Falls combo hike. Once again, if you're into hiking or walking, join the Boonie Stompers and "hike the way locals do" in Guam. The non-profit group Boonie Stompers offers guided hikes to waterfalls, mountains, caves, beaches, snorkeling sites, latte sites, World War II spots, and other historic and cultural sites on Saturday mornings.

In one of those Guam visits, I got to join the combo hike to Invasion Route and Tony's Falls, which took four hours and 1.3 miles to complete. The hike retraced the July 21, 1944, route of the U.S. Third Marine Division during World War II from Asan to the heights above. We hiked all the way up to the Asan Bay Overlook, before hiking down to the refreshing Tony's Falls.

Boonie Stompers advertises that particular hike as "difficult." But when I hit my worst state—which happened a few times in the course of that exhausting hike because of steep slopes, the scorching heat, sword grasses, lack of sleep, and all the other paybacks from the previous night's partying—I told myself the hike should have been categorized "deadly"—at least for me.

A dip in Tony's Falls might just be what the doctor ordered after a difficult hike. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

I am breaking down at least two portions of that hike in Nos. 25 and 26.

25 Asan Bay Overlook. Hiking the Asan Bay Overlook was grueling. But every time I looked back to where we were and looking down at the ocean view from afar, it made the hike more bearable.

It is said that Asan Bay Overlook is one of the best Guam tourist attractions in Apra Harbor, "providing visitors with a view that the Japanese had as the American soldiers hit the beach at Asan to take back Guam." But even the U.S. military personnel I was hiking with that morning were saying, "It must have been a myth," referring to the historic route of the U.S. Third Marine Division in July 1944 and to think that they were in full military gear at the time.

When we reached the overlook, I saw tourists getting off tour buses near the World War II memorial site and I said to myself, "They got it so easy!" Asan Bay Overlook is a regular stop for tour buses, mainly for the spectacular views and the "carved bronzed monuments dedicated to the American soldiers and Chamorro civilians, and a World War II memorial site." We were then off to our

Continued on Next Page

Tourists check out Fort Nuestra Senora de la Soledad, a Spanish-era fort that provides spectacular views of Guam's natural beauty, a glimpse of Spanish architecture, relics such as cannons, and a non-commercial spot to watch the island sunset. HAIDEE

From Page 14

next stop: Tony's Falls.

26 Tony's Falls. The hike downhill was still quite challenging. But as always, the reward was a sweet, refreshing treat of Tony's Falls. Hikers enjoyed cooling off, diving in, taking photos or simply taking in the calming view. The Invasion Route and Tony's Falls hike combo did not only put our stamina to the test but also gave us lessons in history, culture, and the environment.

27 Art exhibits. Not a week passes by without art or arts and crafts exhibits (including those of my friend and former editor, Mar-Vic Cagurangan), so make sure to check out the event calendars.

28 The Beach at Gun Beach. This is undoubtedly one of the best beach bars—and the largest—in Guam, and they're just about to celebrate their first year in July. The Beach features large main decks overlooking the beach below, beachfront dining, live entertainment, and a full service bar and grill made more inviting by the crashing sound of the surf and tropical breezes at night.

29 Meskla. A friend of mine insisted last week that Meskla in Hagatña should be on this list early on because it is "Guam's only Chamoru fusion restaurant." Award-winning local chef Peter Duenas, also host of "Outdoor Chef," puts a unique twist on old recipes with modern techniques and flavors from around the world. "Meskla" means "mix" or "blend" in Chamorro.

And since we're talking about Chef Peter Duenas, he is scheduled to appear on Saipan as host of "Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition" on July 28 at Pacific Islands Club.

30 Skinner Plaza. Located in central Hagatna, this beautiful, tranquil green space may just be what the doctor ordered to get away from it all. Manicured plants and big trees are pleasant on the eyes. It is named after Guam's first civilian governor, Carlton Skinner. The park also contains a few memorials to Guam's war heroes, including a statue of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Last Christmas and New Year, holiday decor transformed Skinner Plaza into a beautiful garden of lights.

31 Fort Nuestra Señora de la Soledad. This Spanish-era fort provides spectacular views of Guam's natural beauty, a glimpse of Spanish architecture, relics such as cannons used when the Spanish first colonized Guam, and a non-commercial spot to watch island sunset. The place gives you that old-world feel.

Located on the cliff overlooking the beautiful Umatac Bay, Fort Nuestra Senora de la Soledad—or simply Fort Soledad—was one of the last Spanish forts built in the 19th century in support of the Spanish galleon trade. Umatac Bay was the site of Magellan's historic landing in 1521 and an early Spanish colony.

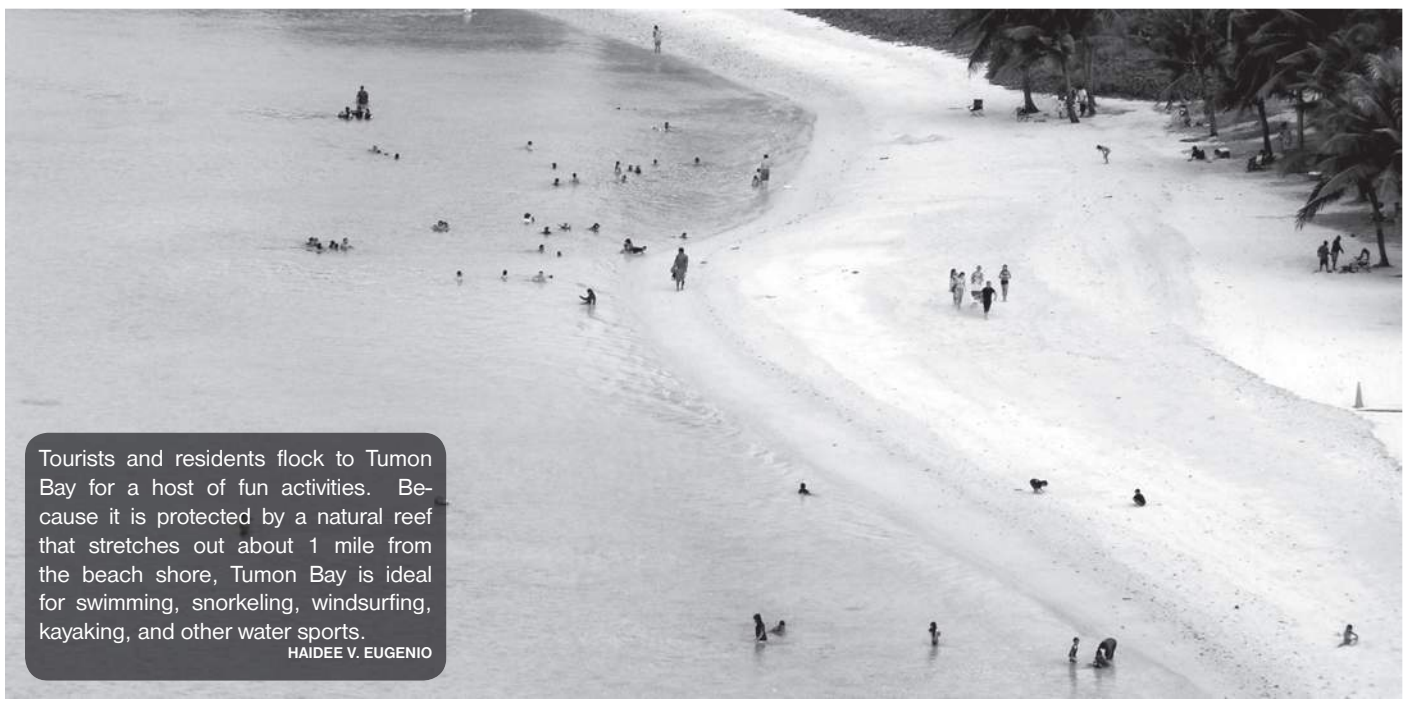
Fort Soledad is one of the 121 sites in Guam listed on the U.S. National Register of Historical Places, testament to the island's rich cultural heritage and ancient history. After World War II, the government transformed the fort into a park.

32 Real carabaos. It was also at Fort Soledad where I saw real carabaos or water buffaloes in Guam. You can ride them or just have your photo taken beside them. These mammoths have been used for centuries for farming. One other location where visitors can ride carabaos, albeit very slowly, is the Chamorro Village.

Real carabaos or water buffaloes, used for centuries in farming, have also become tourist attractions at Fort Soledad. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A morning view from Hyatt Regency Guam at Tumon Bay. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The author in a balcony of Hilton Guam Resort & Spa overlooking Tumon Bay. Dubbed "Guam's favorite coastal playground," Tumon Bay has the best stretch of beaches on the whole island with offerings of white sands, sparkling azure waters and towering green cliffs. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Tourists and residents flock to Tumon Bay for a host of fun activities. Because it is protected by a natural reef that stretches out about 1 mile from the beach shore, Tumon Bay is ideal for swimming, snorkeling, windsurfing, kayaking, and other water sports. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

33 Shipwrecks from two world wars. Guam does not disappoint when it comes to wreck dives. A certain diving spot below the waters of Apra Harbor marks what people say is the only place in the world where wrecks from two different countries and two different wars are nearly touching each other. The SMS *Cormoran*, a German cruiser scuttled during World War I, rests on its side on the ocean floor. Beside it is *Tokai Maru*, a Japanese freighter bombed during World War II.

34 Village fiestas. Experience local culture at its best by going to village fiestas meant to celebrate different patron saints with food, local entertainment, and other activities. Since the Spaniards introduced the tradition in 1668, nearly every village throws one each year in celebration of its patron saint's day.

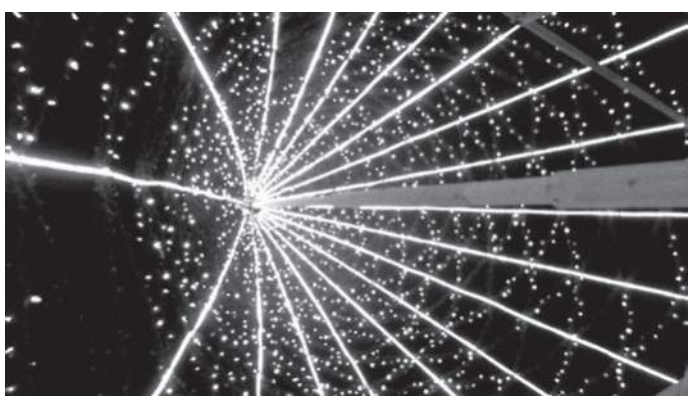
35 Taste of Guam. And since we're talking about fiestas, culture, and traditions, here's a sampling of gastronomical delights you might expect to be served and be forewarned that they come in big servings: Red rice, fried or barbecued chicken or pork, Filipino-style noodle dish called *pancit*, chicken, beef or shrimp *kelaguen* (usually prepared from broiled chicken/beef/shrimp, lemon juice, grated coconut, and hot peppers), a fish plate, *kadon pika* or hot stewed chicken, vegetable salad, pickled cucumbers, and a fiery island condiment called Finadeni.

36 Melting pot on the table. When you talk about melting pot, all you need to do is look at the Guam fiesta or barbecue table and you'd see influences from a host of cultures. Guam may just be an island but it also boasts of more than a hundred large and small restaurants that serve a rainbow of cuisines—Chamorro, other Micronesian islands, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese, Mexican, Indian, Western, Italian, and Jamaican, among other things. Most big hotels also offer Sunday brunch, and you should try it when you're in Guam.

To be continued.

A diving platform, left, is one of the unique features of Inarajan Pools, natural tide pools that are great for diving in, swimming, and snorkeling. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A boy wades in the water of Inarajan Pools, protected from big waves by coral outcroppings rising 15 to 20 feet. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



One of the holiday attractions at Skinner Plaza in central Hagatna. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

Sony prexy gets shareholder approval

TOKYO (AP)—Kazuo Hirai, the former head of Sony's game division, won shareholder approval Wednesday to steer a turnaround at the struggling Japanese electronics giant as its new president and chief executive.

But frustrated investors at the company's annual meeting in Tokyo grilled him and other board members, demanding to know how the company's past glory was going to be revived.

One shareholder got up without being picked to speak, and began shouting. Another shareholder asked why Howard Stringer, whom Hirai replaced, was staying on as chairman when Sony's performance had been so dismal under his seven-year tenure. Reporters were able to watch the proceedings on a monitor.

Tokyo-based Sony, once an icon of Japan Inc. with its portable Walkman music player, reported its worst loss in its 66-year corporate history for the business year ended March. Its profitability was battered by the tsunami disaster in 2011, flooding in Thailand, the global economic slowdown and a soaring yen.

AP
In this April 12, 2012 file photo, Sony Corp. President and Chief Executive Officer Kazuo Hirai poses for photographers after a press conference at the Sony headquarters in Tokyo.

The plunging prices of gadgets have also hurt Sony. Its annual loss last fiscal year of 457 billion yen ($5.7 billion) was its fourth straight year of red ink.

More critically, it has stumbled in the face of powerful rivals such as Samsung Electronics Co. of South Korea, which dominates the global TV business, and Apple Inc. with its iPhone and iPad offerings. Apple's devices have been bigger hits than Sony products even in the Japanese market. Sony has lost money for eight straight years in its mainstay TV business.

"We take the problem Sony's electronics business is facing very seriously, and we feel a sense of crisis," Hirai told shareholders.

Hirai's appointment as president and chief executive, replacing Welsh-born Stringer, the first foreigner to head Sony, was announced in April, and up for vote at the meeting. Despite some critical questions, the proposal passed at the end of the 90-minute meeting.

China promises measures to boost HK economy

BEIJING (AP)—China's Cabinet announced measures Wednesday aimed at boosting Hong Kong's anemic economic growth as the semiautonomous territory prepares for a weekend visit by Chinese President Hu Jintao.

The Cabinet promised to promote Hong Kong's status as a center for offshore finance using the mainland's tightly controlled currency, the yuan. It said it would encourage closer trade, travel and investment links.

Hu is due in Hong Kong for weekend ceremonies marking the 15th anniversary of the end of British colonial rule and the inauguration of its third post-colonial leader, Leung Chun-ying.

Leung takes office amid a swell of discontent over a widening rich-poor gap, surging housing costs and growing unease with China's communist leaders.

The Hong Kong economy barely grew in the past quarter as exports shrank amid weak global demand. The government said Tuesday the economic outlook is "challenging" due to Europe's debt crisis.

Hong Kong retained its own currency and legal system with Western-style civil liberties following the 1997 return to Chinese sovereignty. Beijing promised the territory a high degree of autonomy for 50 years.

Wednesday's announcement said Beijing will encourage foreign investors to use Hong Kong for settling trade and investment contracts in yuan. It said regulators also will improve the variety of yuan-based services available through Hong Kong and facilitate investment from the territory in mainland stock markets.

Mainland authorities also will encourage joint ventures between Hong Kong's stock exchange and mainland exchanges in Shanghai and Shenzhen, the Cabinet said. It said mainland companies will be encouraged to invest abroad jointly with Hong Kong partners.

The central government will promote coordination among airports, railways and ports in Hong Kong and mainland areas on the Pearl River Delta, the Cabinet said.

Judge orders halt to Samsung sales of Galaxy tab

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A judge late Tuesday ordered Samsung Electronics Co. to halt sales of its Galaxy 10.1 tablet computer while the court considers Apple's claim the South Korean tech giant illegally copied the design of the popular iPad.

U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh said Apple Inc.'s lawsuit appeared likely to prevail.

"Apple has established a strong case on the merits," Koh said.

Koh had earlier said the two products are "virtually indistinguishable," but she declined in December to take the dramatic step of prohibiting sales of the Galaxy 10.1. She changed her mind after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit told Koh to take another look at Apple's request for an injunction, ruling June 19 that it appeared the Cupertino-based company had a strong case. The Washington, D.C., court handles most patent appeals.

"Although Samsung has a right to compete, it does not have a right to compete unfairly, by flooding the market with infringing products," Koh wrote in her Tuesday order. She said Apple would be "irreparably harmed" if sales of the Galaxy 10.1 continued.

Samsung representatives didn't respond to email requests for comment late Tuesday.

Koh ordered Apple to post a $2.6 million bond in case it ultimately loses the case.

The ruling is a small part of a much larger patent battle between the two tech giants, who are scheduled to go to trial next month in San Jose.

Apple filed its lawsuit last year, and the two companies are enmeshed in patent disputes around the globe revolving around smartphones and handheld computers. Samsung, with its Android-powered products, has emerged as one of Apple's chief rivals.

Apple also accuses the South Korean company of infringing patents related to the iPhone. Apple is seeking a similar injunction barring Samsung from selling one of its smartphones in the United States.

Nation

Sandusky son talks of sex abuse on tape

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—Jerry Sandusky's son Matt recalled showering with his future adoptive father as a boy and pretending to be asleep to avoid being touched—memories that surfaced only recently, according to a police interview that details what are the earliest allegations yet of abuse by the former Penn State assistant football coach.

Matt Sandusky, now 33, said the abuse started at age 8, a decade before he was adopted by the once-heralded defensive coordinator, according to the interview, first reported Tuesday by NBC News.

"If you were pretending you were asleep and you were touched or rubbed in some way, you could just act like you were rolling over in your sleep, so that you could change positions," Matt Sandusky said in an excerpt played Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show. His attorneys confirmed the recording's authenticity to The Associated Press.

Jerry Sandusky was convicted last week of 45 counts of abusing 10 boys he met through the charity he founded—the same organization that introduced him to Matt Sandusky, who became his foster child. Jerry Sandusky's principal lawyer did not return messages Tuesday, and another lawyer said only that Matt Sandusky's allegations contradict testimony he gave to the grand jury whose charges put his father on trial.

Sandusky

Matt Sandusky did not reveal any abuse when he was initially questioned as a grand jury witness but did release a statement alleging past abuse as the jury was sequestered in deliberations last week.

The police interview tapes are the first time Matt Sandusky's allegations of sexual abuse have been publicly aired, and too much time has passed for criminal charges. Asked why he was now coming forward on abuse purported to have occurred as early as the late 1980s, Matt Sandusky told police there were several reasons—but singled out his family.

"So that they can really have closure and see what the truth actually is. And just to right the wrong, honestly, of going to the grand jury and lying," he said in the police interview.

The AP does not identify people alleging sexual assault without their consent. Matt Sandusky's lawyers named him in a statement released Tuesday to reporters that acknowledged the tapes' validity.

"Although the tape was released without Matt's knowledge or permission, it illustrates that he made the difficult decision to come forward and tell the painful truth to investigators despite extraordinary pressure to support his father," lawyers Justine Andronici and Andrew Shubin wrote.

Obama prepping thousands of lawyers for election

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP)—President Barack Obama's campaign has recruited a legion of lawyers to be on standby for this year's election as legal disputes surrounding the voting process escalate.

Thousands of attorneys and support staffers have agreed to aid in the effort, providing a mass of legal support that appears to be unrivaled by Republicans or precedent. Obama's campaign says it is particularly concerned about the implementation of new voter ID laws across the country, the possibility of anti-fraud activists challenging legitimate voters and the handling of voter registrations in the most competitive states.

Republicans are building their own legal teams for the election. They say they're focused on preventing fraud—making sure people don't vote unless they're eligible—rather than turning away qualified voters.

Since the disputed 2000 presidential election, both parties have increasingly concentrated on building legal teams—including high-priced lawyers who are well-known in political circles—for the Election Day run-up. The Bush-Gore election demonstrated to both sides the importance of every vote and the fact that the rules for voting and counting might actually determine the outcome. The Florida count in 2000 was decided by just 537 votes and ultimately landed in the Supreme Court.

This year in that state alone, Obama and his Democratic allies are poised to have thousands of lawyers ready for the election and hope to have more than the 5,800 attorneys available four years ago. That figure was nearly twice the 3,200 lawyers the Democrats had at their disposal in 2004.

ACROSS THE NATION

Christian group backs away from ex-gay therapy

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The president of the country's best-known Christian ministry dedicated to helping people repress same-sex attraction through prayer is trying to distance the group from the idea that gay people's sexual orientation can be permanently changed or "cured." That's a significant shift for Exodus International, the 36-year-old Orlando-based group that boasts 260 member ministries around the U.S. and world. For decades, it has offered to help conflicted Christians rid themselves of unwanted homosexual inclinations through counseling and prayer, infuriating gay rights activists in the process. This week, 600 Exodus ministers and followers are gathering for the group's annual conference, held this year in a Minneapolis suburb. The group's president, Alan Chambers, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the conference would highlight his efforts to dissociate the group from the controversial practice usually called ex-gay, reparative or conversion therapy.

Adult chimpanzee kills baby chimp at LA Zoo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A baby chimpanzee was killed by an adult male chimpanzee inside their exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo on Tuesday as visitors watched, zoo officials said. Zoo spokesman Jason Jacobs said visitors reported seeing the adult attack the 3-month-old infant but workers could not stop the attack because it is not safe for them to occupy the same space as the chimpanzees. The baby's mother, a chimp named Gracie who gave birth March 6, "had proved to be a caring mother," the zoo said in a statement.

Wildfire devours structures in Colorado Springs

WOODLAND PARK, Colo. (AP)—More than 2,100 residents were being evacuated from the Air Force Academy's grounds Tuesday night as heavy smoke billowed from a wildfire that has burned an unknown number of homes near Colorado Springs. The academy was telling families to leave two main housing areas, but an area of the 28-square-mile campus that houses cadets wasn't immediately evacuated. A new class of cadets is still scheduled to report on Thursday. Fire officials had issued a pre-evacuation notice for the academy earlier Tuesday. El Paso County sheriff's officials have ordered an estimated 32,000 people to leave.

Asia

Suu Kyi holds no grudges against jailers

PARIS (AP)—Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi said Tuesday that she holds no grudges against the military regime that kept her under house arrest for some 15 years and considers them people to work with toward reform.

Her focus is on practical matters, Suu Kyi said at a news conference, not "abstract ideas of justice."

Suu Kyi met with the press after a meeting with President Francois Hollande on the first day of her four-day visit to France to close out a European tour that has taken her to Switzerland, Norway, Ireland and Britain. She and the French president were having dinner Tuesday night.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner has been a world symbol of courage and hope for facing down Myanmar's military regime, which ruled for 49 years until last year. She is now helping the country usher in what many hope is a transition to democracy. And pragmatism seems to be her watchword.

"I certainly do not bear any grudges against the military regime," she said. "I never think of them as those people who placed me under house arrest for so many years. This is not the way we bring about national reconciliation.

"I think of them as people with whom I would like to work in order to bring reform to our country," she added.

AP

Myanmar opposition leader leader Aung San Suu Kyi arrives at the Gare du Nord train station, ahead of a three-day visit to Paris, Tuesday June 26, 2012.

Hollande, at her side, said that France intends to support all those involved in the democratic transition, and "not consider it a tranquil process," so that Myanmar achieves a "full and complete democracy."

He cautioned that France will keep a vigilant eye on financial transactions and industrial projects that a more open Myanmar will likely attract.

PM: 123 rescued from capsizing off Australian isle

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—A boat carrying asylum seekers to Australia capsized Wednesday and 123 people were rescued from the Indian Ocean, Prime Minister Julia Gillard said, less than a week after more than 90 people drowned on a similar journey.

Gillard told Parliament that most if not all the people on board had been rescued.

Two merchant ships collected survivors initially, and Gillard told Parliament that two Australian warships and a military aircraft that can drop life rafts on the sea joined the search by late Wednesday.

"There is reason to believe that there are around 123 to 133 people on board," she said. "My best advice is that 123 people have been rescued."

Imprecise numbers for the boat's occupants mean they could not say if anyone was missing, she added.

The area is 200 kilometers (120 miles) north of Australia's Christmas Island and 185 kilometers (115 kilometers) south of the main Indonesian island of Java. The boat capsized in Indonesia's search and rescue zone but Australian authorities had raised the alarm, Australian Maritime Safety Authority spokeswoman Jo Meehan said.

The first merchant ship reached the scene more than four hours later, she said.

Last Thursday, 110 people were rescued when a boat carrying more than 200 mostly Afghan asylum seekers capsized in the same area. Only 17 bodies were recovered.

The survivors' refugee applications were being assessed at Christmas Island, where Australia runs an immigration detention center.

Australia is a common destination for boats carrying asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Iraq, Sri Lanka and other poor or war-torn countries.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NY court dismisses victim claim on Marcos assets

ALBANY, New York (AP)—New York courts have dismissed the claim by victims of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos for more than $35 million from a U.S. brokerage account, citing the competing claim by the Philippine government upheld by its own highest court. The Court of Appeals, New York's highest, says the state's courts for now "should not intercede" in a case that remains within the province of Philippine national sovereignty. If the assets belong to that country's people, also victimized by the Marcos government that was overthrown in 1986, the court says the assets should be returned. Marcos was sued in U.S. federal court in Hawaii, where he fled, on behalf of some 10,000 victims of arrest, torture and execution. The plaintiffs obtained a nearly $2 billion judgment after he died and now seek related assets.

Landslides kill 30 in southern Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Rescuers say landslides caused by heavy monsoon rains have killed at least 30 people in southern Bangladesh. Government official Saiful Islam said rescuers are searching for bodies of several people missing since the slides late Tuesday and early Wednesday. The bodies of 30 adults and children have been recovered. The slides occurred after three days of rain in the region. Huge chunks of earth and mud buried several flimsy huts at the foot of hills in Bandarban district. The area is 248 kilometers (155 miles) southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

World

Violence tops debate ahead of Venezuela vote

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Natalia Guzman stepped hesitantly into the morgue looking for her only son. She was led to rows of refrigeration units, where after peering at more than a dozen corpses she finally found 17-year-old Jaime.

Trembling and in tears, she embraced relatives outside the building and said her son's body had been riddled with bullets. She blamed a drug-dealing gang in her slum for the killing and complained that police might have prevented it had they been patrolling her neighborhood.

The rising tide of violent crime that has engulfed Venezuela has become a top issue in the country's presidential campaign, with opposition candidate Henrique Capriles blaming President Hugo Chavez's government for failing to halt the bloodshed. Yet Guzman and many other Venezuelans appear to have lost faith in the ability of any government as well as the police to address the problem, no matter who wins the October vote.

"Crime is out of control, and I don't think any politician, neither Chavez, nor Capriles, is going to change that," Guzman said, speaking in a low voice that at times cracked when she cried.

The government says more than 14,000 people were killed in Venezuela last year, giving the country a murder rate of 50 per 100,000 people and making it one of the most violent countries in Latin America and the world. The murder rate has more than doubled since 1998, when Chavez was first elected.

At campaign rallies, Capriles has been promising to fix what he calls one of Chavez's most glaring failures, declaring: "We will have to choose between life or death."

Chavez has responded by banning gun sales, expanding a new national police force and launching an anti-crime plan with stepped-up policing and other programs in high-crime areas.

It's unclear how the political tug-of-war on crime may affect the race. But Chavez's opponents are hammering away on the issue, convinced that some voters will be swayed.

Capriles' campaign manager, Leopoldo Lopez, said as he presented the opposition's "Security for All" anti-crime plan that nearly 14 years after Chavez was first elected, the president's promises are too little, too late. "He's never made the issue of security a priority, until now when he tries to use it as a political banner," Lopez said.

New Egypt president moves toward unity government

CAIRO (AP)—President-elect Mohammed Morsi tried to ease the turmoil that has rocked Egypt since the uprising 16 months ago, reaching out Tuesday to Christians, women and secular revolutionaries to join his new Islamist-led government.

Even prominent opponents of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood gave cautious support for his effort to end military rule after the generals issued a series of last-minute decrees to try to keep their grip on power.

But it remained unclear how much power the military was willing to cede—and how much authority the Brotherhood ultimately intends to retain for itself.

Dina Zakariya, a Morsi campaign spokeswoman, said the only way forward is to create a national unity government that represents all political forces and all Egyptians.

"The country lived for so long in corruption. No single party can take full responsibility" for tackling the nation's problems, she said, adding that Morsi is serious about appointing a Christian and a woman as vice presidents and including a range of political factions in the Cabinet.

Morsi was declared the winner Sunday of the first free presidential election in Egypt's modern history, becoming the first Islamist and the first civilian to hold the office. Since then, backdoor negotiations on a power-sharing agreement between Islamists and the ruling military council have been ongoing.

The deeply polarizing race pitted Morsi against Hosni Mubarak's last prime minister, Ahmed Shafiq. Many liberals who drove the uprising, as well as women and minority Christians were despondent over the choice between a vestige of the old regime and a candidate they fear might impose stricter Islamic law in Egypt and limit personal freedoms.

In an effort to assuage those fears, Morsi and his Muslim Brotherhood have floated the names of respected liberals, women and Christians to join his government. Among them is former nuclear watchdog chief Mohamed ElBaradei, a leading pro-democracy advocate.

Critics say the Muslim Brotherhood, which dominated in both parliamentary and presidential elections, is power hungry. They warn that if the Brotherhood does not create a broad-based government, it alone will be blamed for failing to fix the battered economy, surging crime and deteriorating social conditions in Egypt after a tumultuous transition to democratic rule.

"Morsi promised that the prime minister post will be assigned to an independent, not because the Brotherhood loves independents but because they fear failure," said Mohammed el-Gebbah, a former Brotherhood member. "The burden is too heavy and they want someone to carry it with them."

There are already disputes boiling between some revolutionary factions and the Brotherhood, with one prominent activist calling for a march to the presidential palace this week dubbed "Beer is our right" to protest any attempt by the new president to impose a religious state.

WORLD BRIEFS

Syria: TV station attacked, 3 staffers killed

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's state-run news agency says gunmen have attacked the headquarters of a pro-government TV station, killing three employees. SANA says the attack on Ikhbariya TV in the town of Drousha, about 20 kilometers (14 miles) south of the capital Damascus, occurred early Wednesday. An employee at the station said that the gunmen stormed two of the station's buildings, detained some of the guards then blew up parts of it with explosives. The employee, who did not give his name for fear of repercussions, said the gunmen blindfolded him then drove him away about 200 meters (yards) where he heard the explosion. "I was terrified," the man said by telephone. Ikhbariya is privately-owned but strongly supports President Bashar Assad's regime.

Rescue crews dismantle mall to get at victims

ELLIOT LAKE, Ontario (AP)—Rescue crews began dismantling a partially collapsed mall late Tuesday night in this northern Ontario city in an effort to rescue victims despite fading hopes of finding anyone alive. Officials used heavy equipment to clear a path from outside the building to resume rescue efforts stalled over fears the unstable structure could further collapse, leaving rescuers trapped inside the mall. Rescuers detected breathing inside the rubble early Monday, but authorities enraged local residents when they called off work later that day. One death was confirmed after part of the mall's roof collapsed Saturday afternoon, and another person is known to be still inside.

Environment

Australia sets historic ocean protections

Australia announced last week an historic decision to create the world's largest network of marine protected areas, including a massive fully protected marine reserve in the Coral Sea, a move hailed by the Pew Environment Group.

The Coral Sea no-take marine reserve, known in Australia as a national park zone, spans 503,000 square kilometers (194,000 square miles) and is the world's second largest fully protected no-take marine reserve. This is part of a larger marine protected area in the Coral Sea, which is nearly 1 million square kilometers (386,100 square miles) in area.

Australia's Coral Sea, located east of the world-famous Great Barrier Reef, is recognized as the country's marine jewel and one of the world's last intact tropical ocean ecosystems.

As nations gather in Rio de Janeiro for the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development, Australia has made it clear that ocean conservation and management are critical to the world's economic prosperity and environmental health.

» World's largest network of MPAs includes marine reserve in Coral Sea

"Once again, Australia is leading the world in protecting its marine environment and the unique wildlife it contains," said Joshua Reichert, managing director of the Pew Environment Group. "The Coral Sea joins the growing number of large, fully protected marine reserves in the world, adding to the emerging recognition of the need to conserve the special places in our ocean."

Roughly equivalent to the size of Spain, the Coral Sea fully protected marine reserve will be safeguarded from all extractive activity, including mining, oil and gas development, and fishing. In addition, its creation will ensure the protection of more than a third of its fragile coral reefs.

"The Coral Sea is one of Australia's natural icons and one of the last remaining places on Earth with healthy populations of large ocean-voyaging species, such as deepwater sharks, tuna, and marlin," said Imogen Zethoven of the Pew Environment Group in Australia. "By creating the Coral Sea marine national park, the Australian government has demonstrated global leadership in ocean protection."

Through efforts led by the Pew Environment Group, more than 486,900 people from across Australia and around the world publicly declared their support for strong protection of the Coral Sea. This is the highest level of public support ever received by the Australian government on an environmental issue. In addition, more than 300 marine scientists from 35 countries, including Australia, endorsed the need for protecting the Coral Sea.

"Australia's announcement is groundbreaking and builds on the country's legacy of environmental protection," said Michelle Grady of the Pew Environment Group in Australia. "The scale of protection is unparalleled and is vital to ensuring the long-term health of Australia's unique marine life."

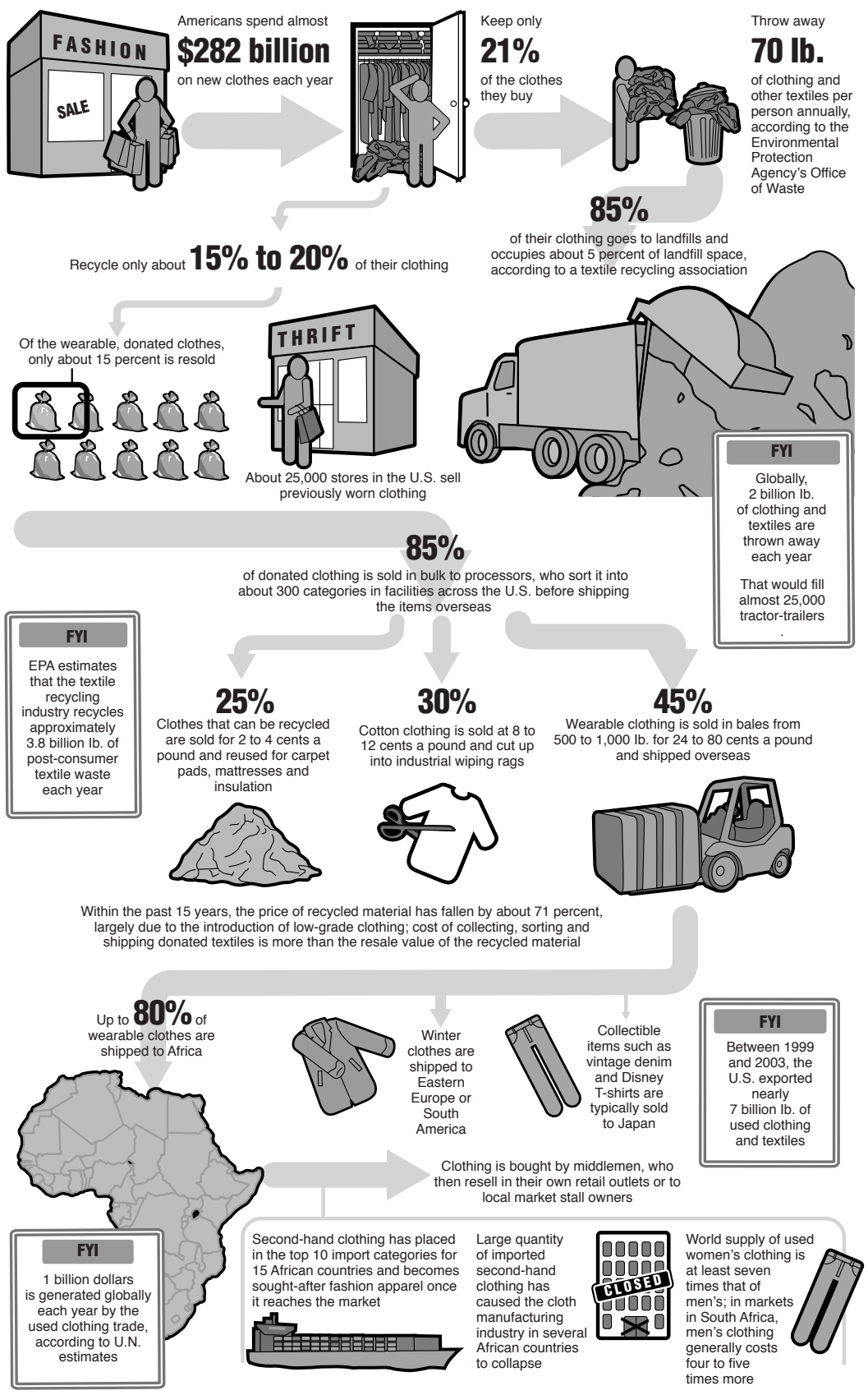
The Pew Environment Group has led efforts to protect Australia's Coral Sea and the country's southwestern, northern, and northwestern marine regions in partnership with an alliance of Australian and international environmental organizations. ***(Pew Environment Group)***

AP

This November, 2002 photo provided by Queensland Tourism, a diver snorkels in the Great Barrier Reef off Australia's Queensland state.

Cheap clothing's high cost

Inexpensive, low-grade clothing enables Americans to cram their closets. Unfortunately, much of that cheap apparel wears out and is thrown away, making up about 5 percent of landfills. Some clothes are donated to charities, but of the wearable clothes, only 15 percent is resold retail. The rest is baled and shipped overseas to be recycled, repurposed or resold. Other costs of cheap clothing include collapsing clothes manufacturing in some areas.


FASHION
SALE
Americans spend almost
$282 billion
on new clothes each year
Keep only
21%
of the clothes they buy
Throw away
70 lb.
of clothing and other textiles per person annually, according to the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Waste
85%
of their clothing goes to landfills and occupies about 5 percent of landfill space, according to a textile recycling association
Recycle only about 15% to 20% of their clothing
Of the wearable, donated clothes, only about 15 percent is resold
THRIFT
About 25,000 stores in the U.S. sell previously worn clothing
FYI
Globally, 2 billion lb. of clothing and textiles are thrown away each year
That would fill almost 25,000 tractor-trailers
85%
of donated clothing is sold in bulk to processors, who sort it into about 300 categories in facilities across the U.S. before shipping the items overseas
FYI
EPA estimates that the textile recycling industry recycles approximately 3.8 billion lb. of post-consumer textile waste each year
25%
Clothes that can be recycled are sold for 2 to 4 cents a pound and reused for carpet pads, mattresses and insulation
30%
Cotton clothing is sold at 8 to 12 cents a pound and cut up into industrial wiping rags
45%
Wearable clothing is sold in bales from 500 to 1,000 lb. for 24 to 80 cents a pound and shipped overseas
Within the past 15 years, the price of recycled material has fallen by about 71 percent, largely due to the introduction of low-grade clothing; cost of collecting, sorting and shipping donated textiles is more than the resale value of the recycled material
Up to 80% of wearable clothes are shipped to Africa
Winter clothes are shipped to Eastern Europe or South America
Collectible items such as vintage denim and Disney T-shirts are typically sold to Japan
FYI
Between 1999 and 2003, the U.S. exported nearly 7 billion lb. of used clothing and textiles
Clothing is bought by middlemen, who then resell in their own retail outlets or to local market stall owners
FYI
1 billion dollars is generated globally each year by the used clothing trade, according to U.N. estimates
Second-hand clothing has placed in the top 10 import categories for 15 African countries and becomes sought-after fashion apparel once it reaches the market
Large quantity of imported second-hand clothing has caused the cloth manufacturing industry in several African countries to collapse
CLOSED
World supply of used women's clothing is at least seven times that of men's; in markets in South Africa, men's clothing generally costs four to five times more

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Solid Waste, "Recycling of Low Grade Clothing Waste" by Oakdene Hollins, Ethical Style - www.good.is; Seattle Times Pacific NW Magazine, Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association, earth911.com, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Trans-Americas Trading Co.
Graphic: Molly Zisk, The Orange County Register

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Top 5 natural choices for a healthier child

By TERRI BENNETT
MCT INFORMATION SERVICES

do your part

Children are particularly susceptible to dangerous chemicals because of their lower body weight. It takes a much smaller amount to harm their developing bodies. Do Your Part and create a healthier home and a healthier child by reducing your family's exposure to questionable chemicals. Here are my top 5 alternatives to the dangerous chemicals your child probably comes into contact with every day.

1) TRICLOSAN: It's found in many antibacterial hand soaps, gels, and body washes. Triclosan is believed to interfere with thyroid function. It is also has been linked to the creation of "superbugs," which are resistant to antibiotics.

Alternative? Soap and water. Even the FDA says it "does not have evidence that triclosan in antibacterial soaps and body washes provides any benefit over washing with regular soap and water."

2) FLAME RETARDANTS: Chemicals found in flame retardants are linked to serious health issues such as delayed brain development, reproductive problems, and cancer. Flame retardant chemicals can be found on children's clothing and mattresses.

Alternative? Organic cotton or natural latex. Instead of clothing made with flame-retardants, opt for snug-fitting organic cotton clothing and a working smoke detector. Also, choose a crib or child's mattress made from organic cotton or natural latex.

3) PESTICIDES: The EPA warns that most pesticides are especially dangerous to children because they block absorption of nutrients and can even cause permanent biological changes. Recent studies have also linked pesticide exposure to childhood leukemia and birth defects.

Alternative? Vinegar, borax, or food grade diatomaceous earth. Use natural products like these to get rid of pests. Spraying vinegar around doors, windows, and countertops will keep ants away. Borax and sugar will kill roaches. And diatomaceous earth will kill all insects, which means you must use it selectively. Borax and diatomaceous earth are natural but can be hazardous if ingested. Learn more at DoYourPart.com/Columns.

4) AIR FRESHENERS: Why mask bad smells with air polluting chemicals? Most air fresheners can actually leave dangerous levels of hormone disrupting phthalates or formaldehyde (a known carcinogen) behind.

Alternative? Fresh air, baking soda, and soy candles. Getting fresh air into your home can alleviate odors. For tough and stubborn smells like in your garbage can, all-natural baking soda can work wonders. To bring sweeter scents into your home, use soy candles instead of petroleum-based ones.

5) CHEMICAL CLEANERS: Most of us don't know we're polluting while cleaning because the makers of popular household cleaners aren't required to list all their ingredients on the label. These hidden ingredients can cause everything from asthma to reproductive problems.

Alternative? Natural cleaners. You can use all natural vinegar and baking soda to clean and disinfect just about every surface in your home. Cleaning recipes can be found at DoYourPart.com/Columns. If you'd rather buy an eco-friendly cleaner, look for those that are plant-based.

Making smarter choices will help to create healthier homes and healthier children. It's one of the most important ways to Do Your Part for your family and our planet.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, eco-expert and author of "Do Your Part: A practical guide for everyday green living" available at DoYourPart.com. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com

Life&Style

Nora Ephron, writer-filmmaker, dies of leukemia at 71

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Among the injustices about the death of Nora Ephron is that she isn't around to tell us about it.

"She was so, so alive," says her friend Carrie Fisher. "It makes no sense to me that she isn't alive anymore."

Ephron

Ephron, the essayist, author and filmmaker who challenged and thrived in the male-dominated worlds of movies and journalism and was loved, respected and feared for her devastating and diverting wit, died Tuesday in Manhattan. She was 71.

Ephron died at 7:40 p.m. at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, her family said in a statement Tuesday night. She died of leukemia.

Born into a family of screenwriters, a top journalist in her 20s and 30s, then a best-selling author and successful director, Ephron was among the most quotable and influential writers of her generation. She wrote and directed such favorites as "Julie & Julia" and "Sleepless in Seattle," and her books included the novel "Heartburn," a knockout roman a clef about her marriage to Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein; and the popular essay collections "I Feel Bad About My Neck" and "I Remember Nothing."

She was tough on others—Bernstein's marital transgressions were immortalized by the horndog spouse in "Heartburn," a man "capable of having sex with a Venetian blind"—and relentless about herself. She wrote openly about her difficult childhood, her failed relationships, her doubts about her physical appearance and the hated intrusion of age.

"We all look good for our age. Except for our necks," she wrote in the title piece from "I Feel Bad About My Neck," published in 2006. "Oh, the necks. There are chicken necks. There are turkey gobbler necks. There are elephant necks. There are necks with wattles and necks with creases that are on the verge of becoming wattles. ... According to my dermatologist, the neck starts to go at 43 and that's that."

Even within the smart-talking axis of New York-Washington-Los Angeles, no one bettered Ephron, slender and dark-haired, her bright and pointed smile like a one-liner made flesh. Friends from Mike Nichols and Meryl Streep to Calvin Trillin and Pete Hamill adored her for her wisdom, her loyalty and turns of phrase.

As a screenwriter, Ephron was nominated three times for Academy Awards, for "Silkwood," "When Harry Met Sally ..." and "Sleepless in Seattle," and was the rare woman to write, direct and produce Hollywood movies. Fisher and Meg Ryan were among the many actresses who said they loved working with Ephron because she understood them so much better than did her male peers.

"I suppose you could say Nora was my ideal," Fisher said. "In a world where we're told that you can't have it all, Nora consistently proved that adage wrong. A writer, director, wife, mother, chef, wit—there didn't seem to be anything she couldn't do. And not just do it, but excel at it, revolutionize it, set the bar for every other screenwriter, novelist, director."

"Nora Ephron was a journalist-artist who knew what was important to know; how things really worked, what was worthwhile, who was fascinating and why," said "Sleepless in Seattle" star Tom Hanks. "At a dinner table and on a film set she lifted us all with wisdom and wit mixed with love for us and love for life."

The eldest of four children, Ephron was born in New York to screenwriters Harry and Phoebe Ephron, who moved to Beverly Hills, Calif., when she was 4 years old. Words, words, words were the air she breathed. Regular visitors included "Casablanca" co-writer Julius J. Epstein, "Sunset Boulevard" collaborator Charles Brackett, and the team of Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich, who worked on "The Thin Man" and "It's a Wonderful Life."

Everyone was in movies, "the business."

"People who were not in the business were known as civilians," Ephron wrote in "I Remember Nothing."

If the best humor is born out of sadness, then Ephron was destined for comedy. She was 15, she recalled, when her mother became an alcoholic, finishing off a bottle of scotch a night. Her father, too, was a heavy drinker, "sloppy, sentimental," although "somehow his alcoholism was more benign."

Determined by high school to be a journalist, Ephron graduated from the single-sex Wellesley College in 1962, moved to New York and started out as a

See **NORA** on Page 20

Moments we remember in Nora Ephron films

By DERRIK J. LANG
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Some memorable scenes from the films of Nora Ephron, who died Tuesday at age 71:

"When Harry Met Sally" (1989): The scene in Katz's Delicatessen when Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan's characters discuss fake orgasms and Ryan's character launches into an over-the-top version, prompting a nearby woman (played by director Rob Reiner's mother) to deadpan, "I'll have what she's having."

■ ■ ■ ■

"Sleepless in Seattle" (1993): The moment when Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan's characters meet atop the Empire State Building for the first time. Ryan's character convinces an elevator operator to take her to the top after the observation deck has closed.

■ ■ ■ ■

"Michael" (1996): While most of the movie was forgettable, John Travolta added another memorable dance scene to his credits when he lured all the women in a bar to groove with him to Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools."

■ ■ ■ ■

"You've Got Mail" (1998): The moment when Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan's star-crossed characters meet at New York's Riverside Park. She tells him, "I wanted it to be you."

■ ■ ■ ■

"Julie & Julia" (2009): The scene in which Amy Adams' Julie Powell has to cook live lobsters for the first time, complaining, "I have to murder and dismember a crustacean."

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Derry Dee Noisom

September 22, 1923 – June 25, 2012

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents:	†George Frederick & †Helen Harrison Noisom
Sister:	†Pluma Sweizer Noisom
Brother:	†George Frederick Noisom, Jr. "Bubba"
Son:	†Thomas Noisom
Father-in-Law:	†Florencio S. Quitugua
Brother/Sisters-in-Law:	†Remedio Q. Falig, †Luise I. Quitugua, †Juan I. Quitugua

Survived by:

Wife: **Luise Quitugua Noisom**

Children:

†**Thomas** Noisom & Linda
Christine N. Shell
Peter N. Krause (Jake, Avery, William)
Tony Noisom & Adriana (Natalie, Victoria, Emily)
Ligia Noisom
Liza Noisom & Carl (Devin, Margo, Christopher)
Sisi N. Alvarez & Raymond (Raymond III, Nick, Deven, Samuel, Ryder, Vanna)
Jenny N. Deleon Guerrero & Noel (Domonique, Elyna, Noel Jr., Tristine)
David Noisom
Devin Noisom

Mother-in Law: Adela I. Quitugua

Brothers and Sisters-in Law:

Carmen Q. Brown (John)
Sofina Q. Tomokane (Jesus)
Matilde I. Quitugua
Alicia I. Quitugua
Virginia Q. Richards (George)
Teresita Q. Phillips (Scott)
Jose I. Quitugua (Sue)
Mercedes Q. Deleon Guerrero (Jose)
Juan I. Quitugua (Dora Mae)
Diana Q. Gabaldon (Antonio)
Lydia I. Quitugua

He is additionally survived by his numerous nephews, nieces, relatives and friends.

Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at 6:00pm, followed by Holy Rosary at 6:30 p.m. at Bithen Delos Remedios Church in Tanapag.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, July 3, 2012. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Bithen Delos Remedios Church at 7:30 a.m. Responso Service will be at 8:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment Service will be held at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery, Marpi, Saipan.

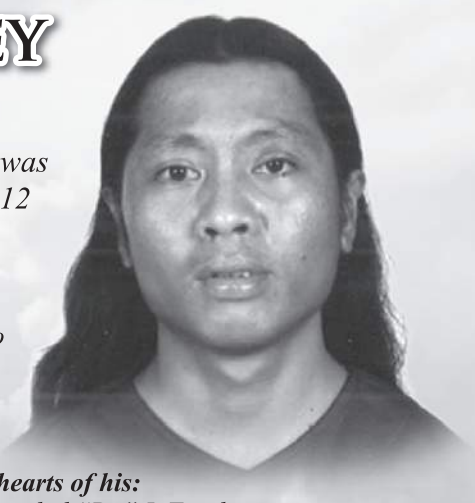
Thank you, Si Yuus Maase, Ghilisou and Salamat Po. Please join us in Prayers.

Luise Quitugua Noisom, Children and Family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

RALPH STANLEY IGISOMAR

Born to life on October 11, 1979 and was called to eternal rest on June 21, 2012



Ralph now joins his:
Paternal Grand Parents:
Francisco "Taghuf" S. Fitial
and Angelina "Tako" M. Taitano
Maternal Grand Parents:
Zacharias O. Igisomar
and Veronica S. Igisomar

His Loving Memory will forever live in the hearts of his:
Parents: *Raphael "Kelly" T. Fitial and Caridad "Da" I. Fitial*
Brothers: *Eugene / Masayo & Family*
Zacharias / Ruth & Family
Roland /Jessica & Family
Sisters: *Vicenta & Family*
Lorna / Edwin & Family
Charene / Polo & Family
Clarissa / Junior & Family

Also survived by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews and Cousins.

On Thursday, June 28, 2012 his body will leave CHC at 3pm and escorted to his residence in Koblerville followed by the Responso. Rosary will be at 7:30 pm. On Friday, June 29, 2012, at 1:30 pm his remains will be escorted to Mt. Carmel Cathedral followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 2:00pm. Interment service will be at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your kind expressions of support and prayers are greatly appreciated.

From The Family.

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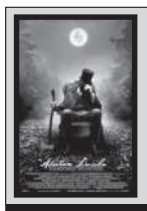
Brave

Friday and Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday thru Thursday	1:10	4:10	7:10	

Kelly MacDonald, Emma Thompson
Musical • Rated PG

Synopsis

An impetuous princess discovers that her reckless choice has put both her family and her father's kingdom in peril in this animated adventure from Pixar films. Merida may be the daughter of royalty, but all she wants out of life is to become a truly great archer. When Merida and her mother clash over the willful girl's future, the decisions she makes have greater repercussions that she ever imagined. Now, in order to save her mother's life and bring peace back to the Highlands, Merida will have to face off against the forces of nature and contend with an ancient curse.



Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter

Friday and Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday thru Thursday	1:00	4:00	7:00	

Benjamin Walker, Mary Elizabeth Winstead
Fantasy, Action • Rated R

Synopsis

Abraham Lincoln is reinvented as a vampire-killing President in this Timur Bekmambetov-directed action picture. Pride and Prejudice and Zombies' author Seth Grahame-Smith adapts his own book for 20th Century Fox.

★ ★ ★

Rock of Ages

Friday and Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	10:05
Sunday thru Thursday	1:25	4:25	7:25	

Tom Cruise, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand
Musical • Rated PG 13

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted

Friday and Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday thru Thursday	1:15	4:15	7:15	

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer
Children's/family • Rated PG

Prometheus

Friday and Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday thru Thursday	1:30	4:30	7:30	

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender
Science Fiction • Rated R

Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday and Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday thru Thursday	1:05	4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Men In Black 3

Friday and Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday thru Thursday	1:20	4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

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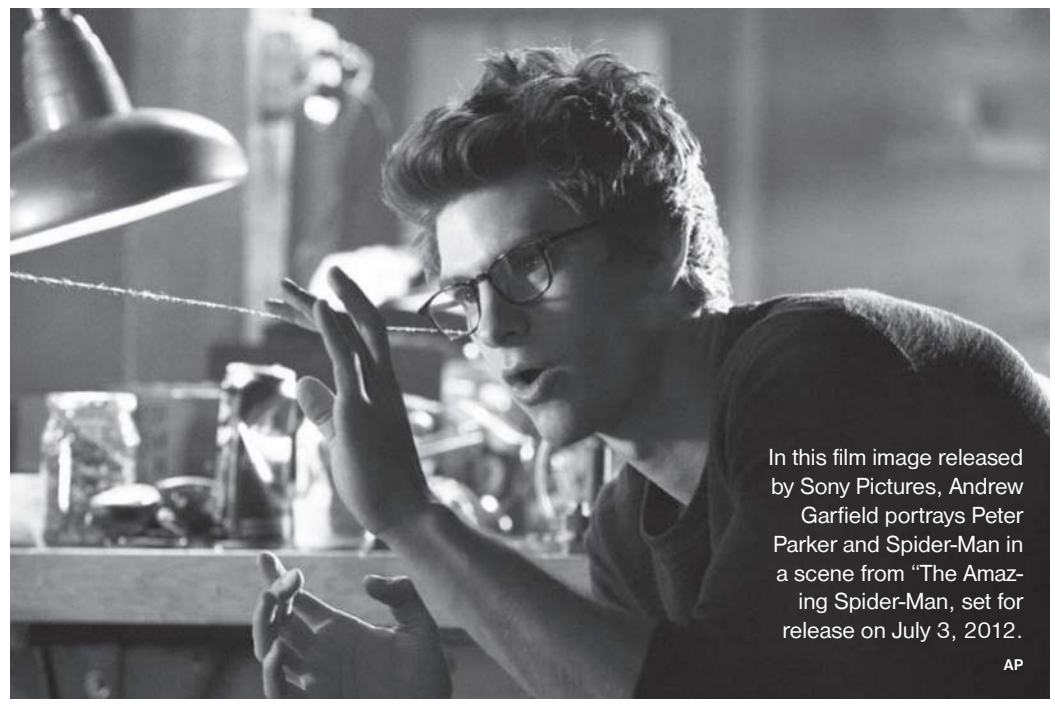
Garfield a restless, reckless 'Spider-Man'

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC



In this film image released by Sony Pictures, Andrew Garfield portrays Peter Parker and Spider-Man in a scene from "The Amazing Spider-Man, set for release on July 3, 2012.

AP

MOVIE REVIEW

It's impossible to avoid the comparisons, so we may as well just get them out of the way early so we can move on.

"The Amazing Spider-Man"—a reboot? Prequel? New chapter? It's hard to decide what to call it—is pretty much different in every way from the staggeringly successful Marvel Comics-inspired trilogy that preceded it.

The basics are the same: A high school kid gets bitten by a scientifically modified spider, discovers he has newfound super powers, decides to use them as a vigilante crime fighter and takes to the streets of New York in an unforgivingly tight red-and-blue suit.

But in terms of tone, characters, performances and even visual effects, "The Amazing Spider-Man" feels like its own separate entity. It may not be as transporting or genre-altering an experience as those earlier films, especially the first two, but it finds a distinct voice. And a great deal of that has to do with the central performance from Andrew Garfield as Peter Parker.

In the hands of Tobey Maguire, who originated the role in "Spider-Man" a decade ago, Peter was nerdy, scrawny, insecure—that's how his everyman relatability manifested itself. Garfield plays Peter as more of a misunderstood outsider, a rebel with a chip on his shoulder, a guy who wasn't afraid to stand up to the class bully even before he underwent his transformation. And that slightly arrogant attitude gives the whole movie a restless, reckless energy and a welcome sense of danger.

At the helm, Marc Webb is a very different sort of director. He may not have sounded like the most obvious choice for a hugely anticipated blockbuster based on his only previous feature, the romantic comedy charmer "(500) Days of Summer." His big set pieces may lack some of the imagination that director Sam Raimi brought previously, but they'll do. More importantly, though, he conveys an emotional truth, a pervasive sense of humanity, which may be an even tougher feat in this kind of fantastical scenario.

Webb's deft touch is especially clear in the scenes between Garfield and Emma Stone as Peter's classmate Gwen Stacy, who has to be the cutest, best-dressed science geek on the planet. (In this version of the "Spider-Man" universe, we must be pre-Mary Jane Watson.) Stone radiates the cute, bright, quick-witted presence we've come to know and love in films like "Easy A" and "Crazy Stupid Love," and she and Garfield have a sweetly flirty chemistry. (The scene where he finally asks her out without really asking her out is adorably awkward.) But there's depth and sensitivity there, too, since she's the only one who knows his secret for a long time.

The script from James Vanderbilt, Steve Kloves and veteran Alvin Sargent begins when Peter was a boy. A sudden threat forces his parents to leave him with his Uncle Ben (Martin Sheen) and Aunt May (Sally Field) before disappearing forever. As Peter grows into a teenager, be begins to ask questions about who they were—especially his mysterious scientist father (Campbell Scott). (If you hadn't noticed, it's a great supporting cast. All these longtime actors show what total pros they are by finding just the right balance in tone and never over- or underplaying their parts.)

This brings him to the gleaming high-rise where his father's former partner, Dr. Curt Connors (Rhys Ifans), is deeply involved in some groundbreaking—and unproven—genetic research. When Connors finally tests his latest formula on himself, the results don't exactly turn out the way he (or the unsuspecting residents of Manhattan) might have hoped. The destruction he causes in his altered state, and Spider-Man's attempts to stop him from causing even more, provide the basis for the film's obligatory noisy showdowns.

Which brings us to the use of 3-D: "The Amazing Spider-Man" didn't need it. I realize I say that a lot but it's an observation that seems especially true this time around. Webb barely applies this de rigueur trick—maybe to make the background pop here and there, or in an aerial shot of the city, but he never puts the technology to its fullest use to make you feel immersed in this world.

Basically, the 3-D feels like an attempt by the studio to sling more summer moviegoing dollars into its web; you should resist, especially since, based on a quick tease during the closing credits, a sequel is clearly being hatched.

"The Amazing Spider-Man," a Columbia Pictures release, is rated PG-13 for sequences of action and violence. Running time: 138 minutes. ✪✪✪

NORA

From Page 19

"mail girl" and fact checker at Newsweek. A newspaper strike at the end of the year gave her a chance. Victor Navasky, the future editor of The Nation, was then running a satirical magazine called the Monacle. He was working on a parody of the New York Post, "The New York Pest," and asked Ephron for a spoof of Post columnist Leonard Lyons.

She succeeded so well that the newspaper's publisher, Dorothy Schiff, reasoned that anyone who could make fun of the Post could also write for it. Ephron was asked to try out as a reporter. Within a week, she had a permanent job and remained there five years. The Post, she later wrote, was a "terrible paper," and she envied her peers at The New York Times and elsewhere who had more time to work on stories and had better access to people they wanted to interview.

"But the point is this. I was better off ..." she wrote in the introduction to the essay collection "Wallflower at the Orgy, published in 1970. "I learned to go through the clips, find the names of people from the subject's past, hunt them up in old telephone books, track them down, and pull out anecdotes they knew. What I'm saying may seem obvious; but one of the things that stuns me is how seldom reporters do this."

Ephron began writing for Esquire and The New York Times and developed a national following as a throwback to the prime of Dorothy Parker and S.J. Perelman and a worthy peer of such new and hip journalists as Gay Talese and Tom Wolfe. She covered political conventions, the feminist movement and Wellesley, which she labeled a factory for "docile" women. Part of her gift was her fresh takes on such traditional subjects for women as food and fashion, like in the essay "The Food Establishment: Life in the Land of the Rising Souffle (Or Is It the Rising Meringue?)"

"The typical member of the Food Establishment," she wrote, "is given to telling you, apropos of nothing, how many souffles he has been known to make in a short period of time. ... He gossips a good deal about his colleagues, about what they are cooking, writing, and eating; and whom they are talking to, about everything, in fact, except the one thing everyone else in the universe gossips about—who is sleeping with whom."

By the 1970s, she had met Bernstein, who teamed with fellow Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward on prize-winning coverage of the Watergate scandal that brought down President Nixon. They married in 1976, and had two children, but love soon turned to hate—and matured into art. Ephron was pregnant with their second child when she learned Bernstein was having an affair, a betrayal that had its rewards, once she stopped crying.

She wrote "Heartburn," later a film starring Streep and Jack Nicholson and directed by Nichols, with whom she collaborated often. The book was so close to her life that Bernstein threatened to sue. Decades later, the memory of the book's birth was easily summoned.

"Yes, totally, completely, absolutely, sitting at the legendary and long-gone Smith Corona electric typewriter that I once had," she told The Associated Press in 2010. "I was working on a screenplay and wrote the first 10 pages of a novel, and I knew the title, knew there were going to be recipes in it. This I remember, exactly where I was, working and knowing, `Oh, I see, enough time has passed that I'm ready to do this.'"

Another perk from her time with Bernstein: She sussed out that "Deep Throat," the unnamed and unknown Watergate source, was in fact FBI official Mark Felt. She would allege that she told countless people about Felt, who did not acknowledge his role until years later.

Singing soldier cut from 'America's Got Talent'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The singing former soldier whose battle injury claims were questioned sang his last song on "America's Got Talent."

Timothy Michael Poe crooned George Strait's "The Chair" before he was cut from the NBC talent competition on Tuesday's Las Vegas-set installment.

The 35-year-old country singer appeared earlier this month on "America's Got Talent" and said he was injured by a grenade in Afghanistan in 2009, but Minnesota National Guard records didn't support his story.

"I don't know that he holds up to other singers on this show at all," said judge Howie Mandel while evaluating Poe.

Poe won over the crowd and celebrity judges during his initial "America's Got Talent" audition that aired earlier this month with a moving story about how he blocked a grenade blast to save his buddies. The National Guard said records show Poe wasn't injured in combat in Afghanistan, and he has been criticized since he made his injury claims on the show.

Poe, who now lives in Texas, later told WFAA-TV in Dallas that he believed he was telling the truth but doesn't know what is real. He also provided a photo to "America's Got Talent" of a soldier that he passed off as himself. Poe's fiancée, Carrie Morris, said he accidentally submitted the photo of Staff Sgt. Norman Bone in Afghanistan in 2006 because he was rushed.

Poe's dismissal on Tuesday's episode was matter of fact and appeared not to be related to the controversy surrounding his claims. The edition of "America's Got Talent" featuring Poe competing for a spot on the show in Las Vegas was filmed last month before his injury claims were scrutinized.

AP

This file photo originally provided by NBC-Universal shows Timothy Michael Poe on the talent competition show "America's Got Talent," on the episode that aired on June 4, 2012.

50 Cent in car accident, released from hospital

NEW YORK (AP)—A representative for 50 Cent says the rapper is out of the hospital after being injured in a car accident in New York on Tuesday morning.

The rep says 50 Cent was taken to New York Hospital Queens where he was treated for "minor neck and back injuries" and is now "doing fine."

Bruce Miller, who was driving the car, was also injured and has been released from the hospital.

Photos of the 36-year-old on a stretcher are posted on his website http://www.ThisIs50.com. The Grammy winner, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, appears in a neck brace in two photos.

No other details were provided.

Celebrities react to the death of Nora Ephron

Celebrities share their reaction to the death Tuesday of author, essayist and filmmaker Nora Ephron:

■ "I am very sad to learn of Nora's passing. She was a brilliant writer and humorist. Being her Harry to Meg's Sally will always have a special place in my heart. I was very lucky to get to say her words."—Billy Crystal.

■ "Nora Ephron was a journalist/artist who knew what was important to know: how things really worked, what was worthwhile, who was fascinating and why. At a dinner table and on a film set she lifted us all with wisdom and wit mixed with love for us and love for life. Rita and I are so very sad to lose our friend who brought so much joy to all who were lucky enough to know her..."—Tom Hanks on behalf of himself and wife Rita Wilson.

■ "In a world where we're told that you can't have it all, Nora consistently proved that adage wrong. A writer, director, wife, mother, chef, wit--there didn't seem to be anything she couldn't do. And not just do it, but excel at it, revolutionize it, set the bar for every other screenwriter, novelist, director. She was inspiring, intimidating, and insightful. She was so, so alive. It makes no sense to me that she isn't anymore. My heart goes out to her family and the many others who treasured her."—Carrie Fisher.

■ "Nora Ephron. The Hostess with the Mostest on the Ball. A brilliant soul, and we will all miss her so...."—Actress Bette Midler via Twitter.

■ "An amazingly talented girl, who was able to accomplish everything she set her mind to with great style and will be missed enormously."—Martin Landau.

■ "So sad to hear that the brilliant Nora Ephron passed away. Her films already are legendary and her talent will be missed. RIP"—Actress Marlee Matlin via Twitter.

■ "R.I.P Nora Ephron. A witty, charming, lovely person."—Actor, writer, director Albert Brooks via Twitter.

■ "On behalf of Women In Film, our members and friends, we are deeply saddened by Nora's early passing. Her writing and directing always showed us a world in which men and women are equally interesting, smart, funny and provocative, which is the way the world really is and should be illuminated in the stories we tell. Her inspiration and leadership will be missed."—Women in Film President Cathy Schulman.

■ "You can settle for reality, or you can go off, like a fool, and dream another dream." -- Nora Ephron Oh Jeez... you will be missed..RIP XO"—Actress Kirstie Alley via Twitter.

■ "I just heard about Nora Ephron. I'm so sad. A great & prolific writer, a warm & kind soul. Gone just like that."—Comedian-actress Sarah Silverman via Twitter.

■ "Auditioned for Nora Ephron 20 yrs ago. Didn't get the part but she sent me a thank you note. I'll always remember that and you, Nora." Actor-comedian Kevin Nealon via Twitter.

■ "RIP Nora Ephron brilliant gracious and FUNNY"—Filmmaker Ron Howard via Twitter.

■ "Nora Ephron always loved a good New York story, and she could tell them like no one else. NYC will miss her very much"—New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg via Twitter.

■ "You could call on her for anything: doctors, restaurants, recipes, speeches, or just a few jokes, and we all did it, constantly. She was an expert in all the departments of living well."—Meryl Streep, a friend of Ephron's who portrayed her in "Heartburn," in an e-mail to the New York Times.

■ "When she began directing, Nora was an inspiration for women filmmakers at a time when there were few female directors working in Hollywood. Nora once said in the New Yorker, `You look at a list of directors and it's all boys; So I thought, I'm just going to become a director and that'll make it easier.' Nora, thanks for making it easier for the many directors who will continue to follow in your footsteps."—Directors Guild of America President Taylor Hackford.

■ "I got to hang with Nora Ephron. A great wit, a real broad, an inspiration to me. (hash)brokethemold"—Elizabeth Banks via Twitter.

AP

This July 27, 2009 file photo shows director and writer Nora Ephron, left, and cast members Meryl Streep, center, and Amy Adams pose together at the premiere of "Julie and Julia" in Los Angeles.

Honeymoon at Disney World is for husband and wife only

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 15 years. We skipped the honeymoon after our wedding so we could save up for our 15th anniversary, which we will celebrate this summer. We plan to stay at one of the resorts at Disney World.

When I mentioned it to my sister-in-law, she said, "It's silly to go to a place like Disney World without a child or two," and asked me if we would bring her son and his friend with us. I refused, saying that this trip is for my husband and me. She then accused us of being childish and selfish. I agree that going to Disney World may be childish—that's the whole point—but selfish? Do you agree with that?

CHILD AT HEART

DEAR CHILD: No, I do not. For your sister-in-law to have said what she did was rude and nervy. Unless the children were yours and you wanted them to accompany you, a honeymoon (belated or not) is for the couple celebrating their marriage. Shame on her.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am 26 and have been dating a nice man for three months and we have spent every weekend together. Recently, he has talked about taking me to a family celebration in another state. The conversation prompted me to initiate a discussion about where we are in our relationship. During the course of our talk, he explained that he feels it's too early for us to be an official couple. But he does want me to meet his parents.

I don't see why I should invest the time and energy to meet his family if he's still thinking about dating other people. Do you agree?

NERVOUS IN D.C.

DEAR NERVOUS: I sure don't. When a man wants you to meet his family, it's a compliment. It doesn't necessarily mean he has marriage on his mind. If you are interested in him with an eye on becoming a couple, accept his invitation. It will give you a chance to see what kind of family he comes from and how they treat each other, which is valuable insight. It will also give his family a chance to see what a charming, personable woman you are.

If you refuse the invitation for the reason you stated, I'd be surprised if the relationship developed much further.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please help with something that has been on my mind for years. I am one of your male readers. I have a sister, "Eileen," who is a bit older. We had a wonderful childhood and are close.

When Eileen entered college, she became pregnant. Because she was unmarried, she and Mom went to a different city and she had the baby. I believe the child was placed for adoption. I don't know if it was a boy or girl.

Eileen returned home, finished college, got married and now has a family. It was never mentioned again. I sometimes wonder if she thinks about the baby she had. I think about it a lot and wonder if I should ask her, or if it's too painful for her to discuss after all these years. I sometimes think I have a niece or nephew out there and wonder what he or she is like. Should I ask my sister or just leave it alone?

WISTFUL OUT WEST

DEAR WISTFUL: I'm sure your sister also sometimes thinks about the child she placed for adoption and wonders what he or she is like. However, unless she raises the subject with you, my advice is to leave it alone. If it has never been mentioned again, there is a good reason for it.

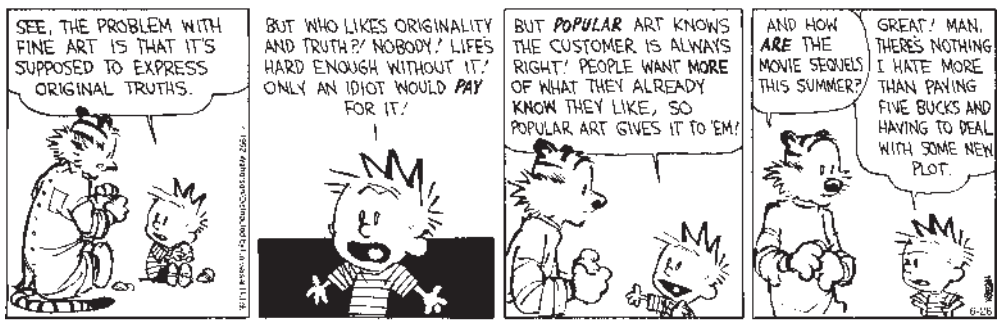
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106; 816-581-7500

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


SEE, THE PROBLEM WITH FINE ART IS THAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO EXPRESS ORIGINAL TRUTHS.
BUT WHO LIKES ORIGINALITY AND TRUTH?! NOBODY! LIFE'S HARD ENOUGH WITHOUT IT! ONLY AN IDIOT WOULD PAY FOR IT!
BUT POPULAR ART KNOWS THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT! PEOPLE WANT MORE OF WHAT THEY ALREADY KNOW THEY LIKE, SO POPULAR ART GIVES IT TO 'EM!
AND HOW ARE THE MOVIE SEQUELS THIS SUMMER?
GREAT! MAN, THERE'S NOTHING I HATE MORE THAN PAYING FIVE BUCKS AND HAVING TO DEAL WITH SOME NEW PLOT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

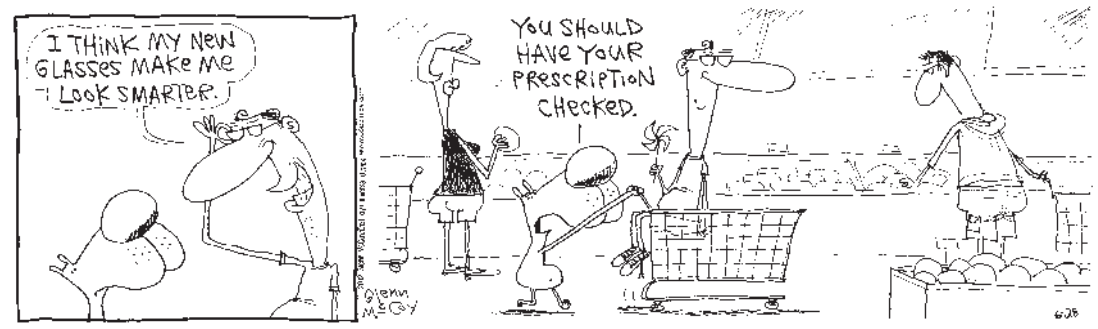
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CLAYTON, ALWAYS CHECK WITH ME FIRST BEFORE YOU THROW ANYTHING AWAY. SOME OF THIS STUFF COULD BE WORTH MONEY.
OKAY.
WHAT'S THIS?
THAT'S A TYPE-WRITER.
IS IT WORTH ANYTHING?
NOT ANYMORE...
WHERE'S THE MOUSE?
I BET HE'S SLEEPING. GIVE IT A COUPLE SHAKES..

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Venomous vipers
5 Panhandle
8 Pinnacle
12 Secular
13 Pitching stat
14 Slender
15 Culture medium
16 Shriner's topper
17 Wet wrigglers
18 Jungle expedition
20 Grand story
22 Killjoy
26 Nasality
29 Every last bit
30 Rowing tool
31 Like a Cabernet
32 Color
33 Remedy
34 Mel of Coopers-town
35 Greet the villain
36 Name
37 Pianist's supply
40 Blue hue
41 Geronimo, for one
45 Fonteyn's frill
47 Ailing
49 Membership fee
50 On the briny
51 Ultra-modern
52 Memo acronym
53 Reiner or Sandburg
54 Sermon subject
55 Nimble

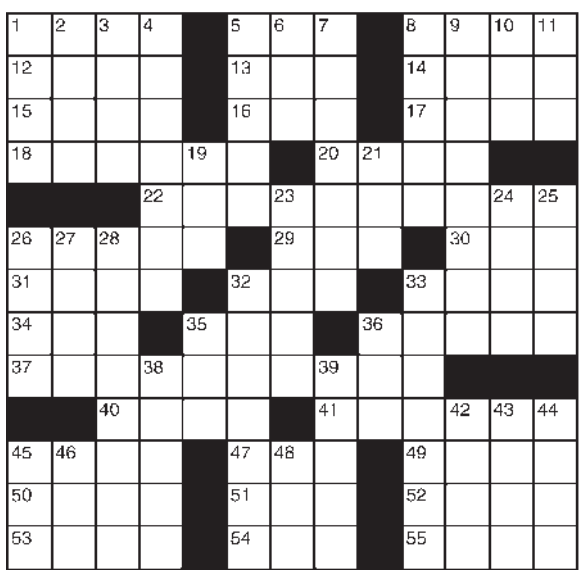
DOWN

1 "Oh, woe!"
2 "The Forsyte —"
3 Chanteuse Edith
4 Not merely
14-Across
5 Suit
6 Preceding
7 Graceful runner
8 Had a home-cooked meal
9 Supermarket section
10 Wire measure
11 Type units
19 Rule, for short
21 Chum
23 Louisiana waterway
24 Count counterpart
25 Genealogy chart
26 Noah's passengers, e.g.
27 Accompanying
28 Pangolin, for one
32 Territories
33 Noisy insects
35 A/C meas.
36 Gratuity
38 Same
39 Beauty parlor
42 Point
43 Listen to
44 Catch sight of
45 Middle O?
46 Mex. neighbor
48 Island garland

Solution time: 25 mins.

			P	A	S			C	A	M		
	A	R	C	H		M	A	G	U	S		
E	B	O	N	Y		E	R	A	S	E	D	
B	L	U	E	S	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	S
B	E	D			T	O	I	L	E		T	O
			H	E	A	I			C	H	I	P
	A	B	O	R	T		D	A	T	E	D	
E	W	E	R			P	U	B	S			
G	A	S		K	F	F	N	S		P	T	A
G	R	E	E	N	S	K	E	E	P	E	R	S
	D	E	V	I	S	E		N	O	N	E	S
		M	E	S	A	S		C	O	C	K	
			S	H	Y			E	R	E		

Yesterday's answer 6-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kellie Pickler, 26; John Cusack, 46; Kathy Bates, 64; Mel Brooks, 86.

Happy Birthday: You need to spice up your life. Get involved in unusual pastimes, or travel to destinations that will inspire you to revisit old interests. Dedicate time to developing your skills and finding your personal and creative comfort zone. Let intuition guide you down a path that will be enlightening, encouraging and exonerating. Your numbers are 2, 7, 18, 21, 27, 30, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): An old partner, friend or lover will contribute something special to your life. Reopen doors that have been shut and re-establish your position in groups, companies or within your family. Make every move count. Favorable input will pay off. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Diversify when it comes to your resume and what you can offer professionally. You have to adapt to changing times if you want to get ahead. There is plenty of opportunity if you broaden the scope of enterprises you can pursue. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take on a high-energy job. Embrace opportunities that promise to teach you something new. Your competitive posturing will put anyone trying to outmaneuver you at a disadvantage. Present youself with confidence and you will leave a lasting impression. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Get everything in order. The better prepared you are, the more cost-efficient you will be. Work from home if possible, where you can be secretive about your plans and intentions. Don't share your ideas until they are perfect. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take on more, and thrive on the buzz you generate. The insight you gain listening to others will help you turn an idea into a moneymaking enterprise. Don't let anyone meddle in your affairs. Take control and call the shots. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Trusting what someone else says or wants you to do will result in a financial consequence. Don't let compliments go to your head. Be realistic and know your limitations. Success will be your revenge and your path to a better life. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Concentrate on learning something new or improving your skills, image or attitude. Love and adventure should dominate your day, along with making alterations to your life that will allow you to reach for goals you've only dreamed about. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Set a strict budget that will allow you to focus on the most important changes you need to make in your life. Success will be based on how responsible and meticulous you are when it comes to stretching your dollars. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can make personal and professional headway if you take a serious and responsible approach to partnerships and teamwork. Be honest with others about what you can do, and strive to give a little more than promised. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Weigh the pros and cons of any offer before you jump in and take a risk. Uncertainty will knock you off your feet if you believe everything you hear. You need a change of scenery to rethink your next move. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Emotions will be close to the surface. Don't react in haste. Concentrate on home and family, and budget for something that will add to your comfort and enhance your relationships. Love is in the stars, and charm will lead to substantial gains. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't get sidetracked. Ask questions about what's being offered and size up the long-term prospects of your pursuits. Re-evaluate partnerships based on equality and opportunities. Avoid being overly generous or too accommodating. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are whimsical, creative and popular. You are a generous and independent leader.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

5		2				4		3
	4		9				7	
9		3				8		2
			4		7		5	
	8		3		1			
4		6				5		9
	1				8		3	
8		7				1		4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	7	1	5	6	8	2	4	3
8	5	4	3	1	2	7	9	6
6	2	3	4	9	7	1	8	5
5	8	7	1	3	9	6	2	4
1	3	2	7	4	6	8	5	9
4	6	9	8	2	5	3	1	7
7	1	8	9	5	3	4	6	2
3	9	6	2	8	4	5	7	1
2	4	5	6	7	1	9	3	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

LEMONADE SALES **Solution: 6 letters**

O	T	R	E	H	S	E	R	F	E	R	A	G	U	S
P	L	E	M	O	N	S	L	A	E	C	O	S	T	R
E	I	D	A	U	D	O	R	M	S	O	U	R	C	O
R	N	W	F	M	C	N	M	I	E	I	A	R	A	B
A	E	O	O	A	W	U	A	X	L	W	G	E	R	H
T	U	P	T	L	S	O	P	T	A	A	L	N	T	G
E	P	I	N	K	L	H	R	S	S	T	A	R	T	I
M	O	N	E	Y	C	E	I	K	E	E	S	O	A	E
N	P	L	A	N	X	N	Y	O	N	R	S	C	F	N
S	E	R	E	T	V	T	O	E	N	I	V	T	Z	E
W	N	U	R	I	S	A	F	E	M	E	R	E	O	L
E	Q	A	T	R	Y	A	L	P	S	I	D	D	A	P
E	C	E	I	Y	T	I	R	A	H	C	L	W	E	O
T	S	H	A	K	E	R	T	R	A	I	N	E	D	E
S	T	I	F	O	R	P	E	K	N	P	L	U	P	P

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Attract, Charity, Corner, Cost, Cups, Display, Drink, Earn, Extract, Fun, Glass, Invite, Lawn, Lemons, Lime, Lineup, Location, Mix, Money, Neighbors, Old-fashioned, Open, Operate, Park, Peel, People, Pink, Plan, Powder, Profits, Pulp, Quench, Refresher, Safe, Sales, Serve, Shaker, Sign, Sour, Stand, Stop, Straw, Sugar, Summer, Sweet, Teamwork, Thirsty, Trained, Water, Yellow

Yesterday's Answer: Overcoat

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 24, 28, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 or 35 send $6.95 each ($8.95 each outside U.S.) plus $3.00 for shipping, payable to Universal Uclick, to: Collage's The Collected Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-591-6469. Order online at puzzles.com. Contains 48 puzzles, 8 of which are the larger 20 x 20 size.

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Seriously looking for used cars Year 2003 & up 4 cylinder & truck. Good condition. We pay cash! Call 287-7676

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I am a Chinese Male, Simple English. I can be a driver, farmer, laborer and can also do general maintenance. Tel. 287-6686.

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WHATZIT Solution: The point of no return

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$ 5.05/hr
Min. 5 to 10 yrs experience
Bespren Development Corp, dba Exquisite Beauty Salon
Please contact Rudy at 233-6927

WANTED
Highly Experienced MACHINIST apply ASAP!
Submit resume to
Saipan Machine Shop/
TBK Auto Cares & Gen. Repairs
Contact 323-1328 / 323-2828 look for Maan

PACIFIC MARINE
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Marine Fiber Glass Technician
(1) Marine Boat Carpenter
Must have 5 years experience
Salary based on experience
Please email resume to
wts_plee@yahoo.com

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Yu Ping J. Angui, Petitioner, vs. David Angui, Respondent,	)	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0245 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 2812 BOX 10002, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

DATED, this 12th day of June, 2012:

/s/ Clerk of Court

TIMOTHY H. BELLAS, Esq.
Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, LLC
Attorney-at-Law
Cactus Street & Botones Ave.
P.O. Box 502845
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: 323-2115 • Fax: 323-2116

ATTORNEY FOR: Petitioner Wan Shuxiang

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF, LIU RUNFANG, Deceased.	)	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0139-CV**

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 3rd day of July, 2012, at 1:30pm, Petitioner, WAN, SHUXIANG, will petition the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, on Saipan, to be appointed the Administratrix of the Estate of LIU, RUNFANG, decedent, when and where all persons interested in said Estate may appear and object to said appointment.
2. Notice is also hereby given to all creditors, heirs and any person having any interest in or claim against the Estate of LIU, RUNFANG, deceased, to file any claim they may have with the Commonwealth Superior Court or with Timothy H. Bellas, attorney for Petitioner, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 502845, Saipan, MP 96950, within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication of this Notice.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2012.

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court
Commonwealth Superior Court

Mercedes Tegita Taitano
P.O. Box 500366
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 322-6087

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ADOPTION OF CASSANDRA ROSE TEIGITA TAITANO Minor Child **By MERCEDES TEIGITA TAITANO** Petitioner.	)	**FCD AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0252 NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 2, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 217A, before the Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 25th day of May, 2012.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court

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DBA: SUCCESS AUTO REPAIR SHOP
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LOWER BASE OR CALL 322-1558/1988

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7:00AM to 1:00PM
Many household items for sale as well as many school supplies and office supplies.
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Focus
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
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KagHS JROTC does well in drill competiti
GCA's January forensic winners

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

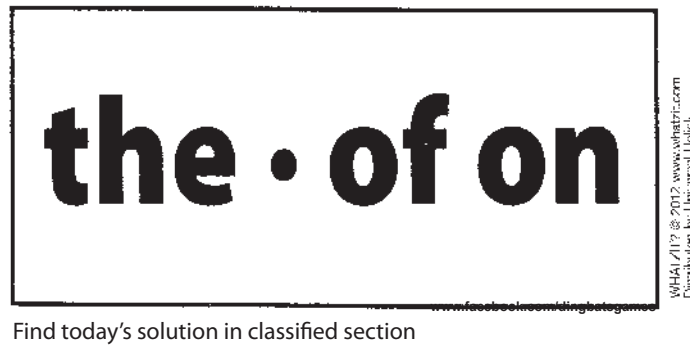
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

Presidents approve college football playoff

WASHINGTON (AP)—Playoffs and tournaments long have determined champions of every college sport from baseball to bowling.

The exception was major college football.

That ended Tuesday. Come 2014, the BCS is dead.

A committee of university presidents approved a plan for a four-team playoff put forward by commissioners of the top football conferences.

For years, the decision-makers had balked at any type of playoff because they said it would diminish the importance of the regular season. If only two teams had a chance to win a championship in the postseason, even one loss could be too many. That made for some very high stakes regular-season games. As recently as 2008, Southeastern Conference Commissioner Mike Slive proposed the type of plan adopted Tuesday, and it was quickly shot down.

Four years later, minds changed. The 12 university presidents stood shoulder to shoulder on a stage at a news conference in a posh hotel in the nation's capital and delivered the news.

"It's a great day for college football," BCS Executive Director Bill Hancock said. "As soon as the commissioners realized they could do this and protect the regular season, the light went on for everybody."

The move completes a six-month process for the commissioners, who have been working on a new way to determine a major college football champion after years of griping from fans. The latest configuration is certain to make even more money for the schools than the old system - and not satisfy everyone.

"There were differences of views," said Virginia Tech President Charles Steger, who headed the BCS presidential oversight committee. "I think it would be a serious mistake to assume it was a rubber stamp."

Nebraska Chancellor Harvey Perlman was the most notable holdout. He had said he preferred the status quo or a tweak of the Bowl Championship Series. Perlman said the playoff still wouldn't be his first choice, but he was not going to stand in the way of progress.

AP

From left, Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany, BCS executive director Bill Hancock and SEC Commissioner Mike Slive smile during an interview after a BCS presidential oversight committee meeting and media availability, Tuesday, June 26, 2012, in Washington.

"This is the package that was put forth and we will strongly support it," he said.

Instead of simply matching the nation's No. 1 and No. 2 teams in a title game after the regular season, the way the BCS has done since 1998, the new format will create a pair of national semifinals.

Many college football fans have been clamoring for a playoff for years, and the BCS has been a constant target for criticism. Lawmakers have railed against it. A political action committee was formed, dedicated to its destruction. The Justice Department looked into whether it broke antitrust laws. Even President Obama said he wanted a playoff.

Now it's a reality.

No. 1 will play No. 4, and No. 2 will play No. 3 on Dec. 31 and/or Jan. 1. The sites of those games will rotate among the four current BCS bowls—Rose, Orange, Fiesta and Sugar—and two more to be determined. One of the new sites will likely be wherever the newly formed bowl created by the SEC and Big 12 is played, Slive said.

The Cotton Bowl, played at the $1.1 billion Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, has long wanted to be part of the BCS and is expected to make a strong push to be in the semifinal rotation.

The winners of the semis will advance to the championship on the first Monday in January that is six or more days after the last semifinal. The first "Championship Monday," as it was called in the BCS release, is set for Jan. 12, 2015.

The site of the title game will move around the way the Super Bowl does, with cities bidding for the right to host.

The teams will be selected by a committee, similar to the way the NCAA basketball tournament field is set. The men's tournament has 68 teams, and 37 at-large bids.

The football committee will have a much tougher task, trying to whittle the field down to four. This season, 125 schools will play at the highest level of college football.

Among the factors the committee will consider are won-loss record, strength of schedule, head-to-head results and whether a team is a conference champion. The selection committee will also play a part in creating matchups for the games at the four sites that do not hold a semifinal in a given year.

"I think it's tremendous progress," Washington State coach Mike Leach, a playoff proponent, said in a telephone interview. "Five years ago there wasn't even dialogue about a playoff. Instead of diving in the water, they dipped their toes in. I think it's' going to be ridiculously exciting and it's going to generate a bunch of money. I wish they dived in."

The BCS had given automatic qualifying status to six conferences, the SEC, Big Ten, Big 12, Atlantic Coast Conference, Pac-12 and Big East. That allowed those leagues better access to the big, high-payout games than the other five conferences, such as the Mountain West and Conference USA.

Automatically qualified status is gone and the commissioners believe the new system will create more interesting games beyond the ones that determine the national title.

"What the system now is, several semifinals, championship game and some access bowls. By creating a couple of access bowls, people will be able to play high-quality opponents in big venues with big brands," Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany said.

No one has put a hard number on it yet, but this new format figures to more than double the TV revenue of the current BCS and Rose Bowl contracts. Those pay out about $155 million annually.

The commissioners want to lock in this format for 12 years with a television partner. The current four-year BCS deal with ESPN runs through the 2013 season. The new format will be presented to potential TV partners in the fall, starting with ESPN.

"I think we have found what we think is the right place and it stabilizes the postseason for a length of time that I think is healthy for the game," said Slive, whose members have won the last six BCS championships.

There are still some details to work out—such as who will be on the committee and what new bowls will be involved in the semifinal rotation—but all the decision-makers are on board.

Lower divisions of college football already have a playoff, but the highest level has always used bowls and polls to determine its champion. Those days are coming to an end.

"We believe this new format will be good for student-athletes, for the alumni and for our institutions," Steger said. "It's a best of both worlds result. It captures the excitement of the playoff while protecting the regular season."

A day later, other Williams wins at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—On one point Tuesday at Wimbledon, Serena Williams dumped a forehand into the net and dropped to a knee, her jaw clenched as she let out a shriek.

On another, she pushed a backhand into the net while her feet gave way, yet again leaving her awkwardly splayed on the grass at Court 2, the same place where her sister Venus lost a day earlier.

By the end, the younger Williams was screaming after nearly every point, good or bad—and, well, there were plenty of both. Her harder-than-the-score-looked 6-2, 6-4 victory over the 62nd-ranked Barbora Zahlavova Strycova of the Czech Republic in the first round at the All England Club wasn't exactly perfect or pretty.

"Definitely a little relief," the sixth-seeded Williams said. "I was letting out a lot of cries. I was happy to get through that."

Yes, Williams got the job done, something she couldn't say the last time she was at a major championship. Last month at the French Open, the 30-year-old American tossed away a big lead—nine times, she was two points from victory—and lost to a woman ranked 111th, the only first-round exit of Williams' career in 48 Grand Slam tournaments.

"I learned that you got to ... keep going," Williams said about that stunning defeat. "I was really disappointed. Obviously, I was extremely disappointed. But as Kelly Clarkson says, `What doesn't kill you makes you stronger.'"

In part because of a series of health scares that sidelined her for about 10 months, Williams has gone two years since the most recent of her 13 major titles, including four at Wimbledon. And even though she bowed out quickly in Paris, Williams is a popular pick to do well this fortnight.

"For me, when I'm playing a match," Williams said, "I either win it or lose it."

She'll want to play better than she did against Zahlavova Strycova, who is 0-21 against top-10 opponents, 13-27 in Grand Slam matches, and never has made it past the third round at any major.

Some other top players were sluggish at the start against unheralded foes Tuesday, when action was cut short in the evening because of rain.

Two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal, for instance, trailed 4-0 against 80th-ranked Thomas Bellucci of Brazil before turning it around and winning 7-6 (0), 6-2, 6-3.

"Fantastic for me," Nadal said, "but I have to improve a lot for the next round."

Defending women's champion Petra Kvitova fell behind 3-0 and 4-1 but eventually used a seven-game run to take control and beat 96th-ranked Akgul Amanmuradova 6-4, 6-4. The match was halted by a 30-minute rain delay in the second set; when they returned, Kvitova needed all of three minutes to wrap things up.

"In the beginning," Kvitova acknowledged, "I think I was nervous."

Twelve singles matches were suspended in progress and four were postponed altogether. Among those that began but didn't finish, 2003 U.S. Open champion and three-time Wimbledon runner-up Andy Roddick led British wild-card entry Jamie Baker by a set and a break; French Open finalist Sara Errani was a point from beating U.S. qualifier CoCo Vandeweghe; and 21st-seeded Milos Raonic of Canada was a game from eliminating Santiago Giraldo of Colombia, leading by two sets and 5-4 in the third.

Winners included 10th-seeded Mardy Fish of the United States, playing his first match since having a medical procedure on his heart a month ago. The 30-year-old Fish hit 24 aces and defeated Ruben Ramirez-Hidalgo of Spain 7-6 (3), 7-5, 7-6 (1), then didn't attend a postmatch news conference; a tour spokesman said Fish wasn't feeling well, but didn't elaborate.

All three Australian men in action Tuesday exited, meaning none reached the second round at the All England Club for the first time since 1938. No. 20 Bernard Tomic, a quarterfinalist at 18 years old in 2011, was knocked out by David Goffin, the Belgian wild-card recipient who took a set off Roger Federer in the fourth round of the French Open; 2002 Wimbledon champion Lleyton Hewitt lost to No. 5 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga; and Matthew Ebden was beaten by Benoit Paire of France.

"The boys didn't have the best day," said Hewitt, who used to be ranked No. 1 but has dealt with a series of injuries, is now 202nd, and needed a wild card to get into the field.

He hadn't bowed out in the first round at Wimbledon since 2003. Williams never has. Never lost before the third round, actually, and now is 13-0 in openers at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament.

Last year, Williams questioned why tournament organizers assigned her and her sister to play on Court 2 rather than the larger and more prestigious Centre Court or Court 1. They have, after all, won a total of nine singles championships at Wimbledon and faced each other in four of those finals.

Given that Venus lost in straight sets on Court 2 on Monday, and Serena went through a workout to win there on Tuesday, the issue came up.

"I can't even talk about it. I'm over it," Williams said, raising her left palm. "I just can't talk about that right now. I'm not in the mood."

Angels hit 4 homers in 7-3 victory over Orioles

BALTIMORE (AP)—Albert Pujols homered in his Camden Yards debut, C.J. Wilson allowed one run in seven innings and the Los Angeles Angels had a season-high 17 hits in a 7-3 win over the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday.

Peter Bourjos, Mark Trumbo and John Hester also connected for the Angels, who have won 12 of 16 overall and 12 of their last 13 road games. The four home runs were a season high.

Pujols doubled and hit his 12th homer, a two-run shot in the fifth inning off Brian Matusz (5-9). Pujols has now homered in 33 ballparks off 282 different pitchers.

Wilson (9-4) gave up six hits and improved to 5-0 with a 1.30 ERA in seven starts since May 18.

Steve Pearce and Wilson Betemit homered for the Orioles, who have lost five of seven. Baltimore has totaled 11 runs over those seven games. The Orioles went 1 for 8 with runners in scoring position and are 2 for 41 in that situation over their last eight games.

Yankees 6, Indians 4

In New York, Phil Hughes bounced back from a rough outing to pitch eight scoreless innings and Alex Rodriguez hit a long home run as New York downed Cleveland.

Hughes (8-6) gave up six hits and a walk to win for the fifth time in six decisions. He lasted only 4 1-3 innings in his previous start.

Curtis Granderson had a two-run single and Chris Stewart added an RBI hit against Justin Masterson (4-7) in the second.

The Indians, losers of four straight, scored four runs against Cory Wade in the ninth on Johnny Damon's RBI single and Jose Lopez's three-run homer.

Rodriguez's homer in the seventh off Tony Sipp was No. 642 of his career and helped the Yankees to their fourth straight win and 14th in 17 games.

Rangers 7, Tigers 5

In Arlington, Texas, Yu Darvish struck out 10 in seven innings to lead Texas over Detroit and win his seventh consecutive start at Rangers Ballpark.

Darvish (10-4) recovered from a shaky start to post his fourth double-figure strikeout game while joining teammate Matt Harrison and Tampa Bay's David Price as the AL's only 10-game winners. The Japanese pitcher is the first major leaguer since 1995 to win his first seven career home starts.

Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton homered in the seventh. It was his 24th of the season to match Toronto's Jose Bautista for the major league lead. Hamilton has a big league-best 67 RBIs.

Tigers starter Drew Smyly (2-3) allowed six runs over 4 2-3 innings in his return from injury.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 1

In Boston, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a tying homer with two outs in the seventh inning as Boston rallied to beat Toronto.

Saltalamacchia's drive to left off reliever Jason Frasor just cleared the Green Monster for his 14th home run, tying it at 1. The Red Sox then loaded the bases on a double, a hit batter and a walk before Dustin Pedroia drove in two with a single.

The rally spoiled a strong performance by Aaron Laffey in his first start in nearly two years.

Adrian Gonzalez added an RBI double in the eighth after David Ortiz hit his second double of the game.

Red Sox starter Daisuke Matsuzaka went 5 2-3 innings, allowing five hits.

Royals 8, Rays 2

In Kansas City, Missouri, Bruce Chen went seven innings in another workmanlike start, and Jeff Francoeur and Yuniesky Betancourt both homered for Kansas City, which scored exactly eight runs for the third straight game.

Betancourt hit a two-run shot during a four-run third inning against Chris Archer (0-2). Francoeur added a three-run homer during a four-run eighth,

Alex Gordon and Billy Butler also drove in runs to pace a Royals offense that was outscored by St. Louis 30-14 over the weekend, but has trumped Tampa Bay 16-2 so far in this series.

Chen (7-6) gave up a run in the first and Brooks Conrad's solo shot in the second as he won for the seventh time in nine decisions.

White Sox 3, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Gavin Floyd struck out nine in seven shutout innings as Chicago edged Minnesota.

Floyd (6-7) didn't walk a batter and increased his scoreless streak to 13 1-3 innings.

Alex Rios hit a two-run homer for the AL Central-leading White Sox.

Addison Reed gave up a two-run single in a shaky ninth but picked up his 10th save in 11 chances.

Twins starter Liam Hendriks (0-5) yielded three runs in 6 1-3 innings.

Mariners 3, Athletics 2

In Seattle, Brendan Ryan hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning to lift Seattle over Oakland.

Casper Wells singled leading off the eighth against Jim Miller (2-1). Dustin Ackley struck out as Wells stole second, and Ryan lined an RBI single over a leaping second baseman to score Wells.

Mariners starter Jason Vargas matched a career high with 10 strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings. Charlie Furbush (4-1) earned the win with a scoreless eighth.

Giants 2, Dodgers 0

In San Francisco, San Francisco's Ryan Vogelsong pitched seven scoreless innings to outduel Los Angeles' Clayton Kershaw for the second time this season, as the Giants beat the Dodgers, cutting the gap between the National League West's top teams to just one game.

Vogelsong (7-3) followed Barry Zito's seven innings in an 8-0 win in the series opener Monday with his own gem, marking only the second time the Dodgers had been blanked in consecutive games in San Francisco — the other was in 1987.

Melky Cabrera's leadoff homer in the fourth snapped Kershaw's streak of 35 2-3 consecutive innings in San Francisco without allowing an earned run. Pablo Sandoval added an RBI single for the Giants, who haven't been this close to first place since after the first day of the season.

Kershaw (5-4) allowed eight hits in six innings.

Braves 8, Diamondbacks 1

In Atlanta, Tim Hudson pitched eight sharp innings as Atlanta opened its longest homestand of the season with a win over Arizona.

Hudson (6-3) allowed one run and seven hits, struck out seven and walked one.

Freddie Freeman had three hits and drove in two runs, Chipper Jones also had three hits and Michael Bourn cracked a first-inning homer for Atlanta, which had 17 hits.

Arizona right-hander Daniel Hudson (3-2) left in the second inning with right elbow tightness, and manager Kirk Gibson said he will have an MRI on Wednesday. Hudson gave up five runs and seven hits in 1 2-3 innings.

Arizona had won four straight.

Cardinals 5, Marlins 2

In Miami, Yadier Molina hit a three-run homer and Kyle Lohse pitched into the eighth inning to lead St. Louis past Miami for its fifth straight victory.

One night after Molina's tying homer in the ninth inning keyed a huge comeback, St. Louis scored five unearned runs in the first.

The Marlins have lost eight of nine and are 3-17 in their last 20 games. Miami manager Ozzie Guillen was ejected for arguing balls and strikes with plate umpire Dan Bellino.

Lohse (7-2) allowed two runs and four hits while striking out four to lower his ERA to 2.82. Jason Motte pitched the ninth for his 16th save in 20 chances.

Reds 4, Brewers 3

In Cincinnati, Bronson Arroyo took a no-hitter into the eighth inning before giving up a three-run lead, but Drew Stubbs led off the bottom half with a homer, sending Cincinnati to the victory over Milwaukee.

Arroyo allowed only one runner through the first seven innings, hitting Ryan Braun in the first. The slumping Brewers hit only four balls out of the infield during that stretch.

Sean Marshall (2-3) escaped the threat, and Aroldis Chapman struck out three in the ninth for his ninth save in 12 tries, celebrating the three-hitter with a pair of somersaults in front of the mound.

AP

Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols singles in the third inning of a baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles in Baltimore, Tuesday, June 26, 2012.

Phillies 5, Pirates 4

In Philadelphia, Ty Wigginton and Carlos Ruiz homered to back Vance Worley as Philadelphia won its second straight to climb out of last place in the National League East.

Worley (4-4) allowed three runs and six hits in six-plus innings. Michael Schwimer pitched out of a jam in the seventh, Antonio Bastardo worked the eighth and Jonathan Papelbon finished for his 18th save in 19 tries, allowing a solo homer to Michael McKenry.

Ruiz hit his career-best 10th homer to give the Phillies an insurance run in the eighth. It was his 10th three-hit game.

Nationals 12, Rockies 5

In Denver, Adam LaRoche homered twice for Washington, and Ryan Zimmerman collected his 1,000th career hit and also homered as Washington beat Colorado.

The Nationals had a season-high 21 hits, which tied the club mark since the team moved to Washington in 2005.

Rockies starter Christian Friedrich (4-5) gave up four runs in 4 1-3 innings.

Washington's Gio Gonzalez (10-3) picked up the win despite allowing five runs in six innings. He struck out seven.

Cubs 5, Mets 3

In Chicago, Anthony Rizzo had two hits and drove in the go-ahead run in his first game with the Cubs, leading the hosts past New York.

Rizzo doubled home Steve Clevenger with two outs in the fourth, making it 4-3 and sending the Mets to their fourth straight loss, matching a season worst. Rizzo was called up earlier in the day for his highly anticipated Cubs debut after posting big numbers in the minor leagues.

Dillon Gee (5-6) struck out six in five innings for the Mets, but gave up four runs.

Chicago's Scott Maine (1-1) threw two scoreless innings for his first big league victory.

Astros 5, Padres 3

In Houston, J.D. Martinez hit a two-run homer and Jed Lowrie added a solo shot as Houston held on for the win against San Diego.

Houston starter Jordan Lyles (2-4) allowed a run in 6 1-3 innings to break a three-game personal losing streak.

Houston took the lead when a run scored on a wild pitch and extended it with an RBI single by Chris Johnson. Martinez's soaring drive to left-center off Kip Wells (0-1) made it 5-1.

Report: Larry Bird leaving Indiana Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—David Morway resigned Tuesday as general manager of the Indiana Pacers amid reports that Larry Bird is on the way out, too.

Morway was hired by the Pacers in 1999 and had been GM since 2008. *The Indianapolis Star* reported Tuesday that Bird is expected to leave the Pacers, citing an unidentified person with direct knowledge of the situation. The Pacers and owner Herb Simon declined comment.

"I think change is great. I really do. New ideas, new creativity, new vision and new energy—I think all of that is important for a franchise," Morway said. "However Mr. Simon decides to do this, I think is going to be good for the franchise. I'm sure he'll make a good decision because he's a terrific owner."

The 55-year-old Bird was Pacers coach from 1997-2000, taking the team to its only NBA Finals appearance that last year, before returning to the front office in 2003. He took full control of basketball decisions after the 2007-08 season, when Donnie Walsh left to become the New York Knicks' president.

This year, Bird was the NBA Executive of the Year after building a tough, young team that lost to eventual champion Miami in six games. He is the only person in league history to win that award, the MVP award and Coach of the Year.

The former Indiana State star won three MVP awards and three NBA titles during his Hall of Fame career with Boston.

SEDA honors four pioneers in awards banquet

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Ben Aguon, Mara Lambon, Polly Omechelang, and Jerry Zapanta were recognized as four of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's pioneer players during Sunday's 2012 Bud Light Winter/Summer League awards banquet held in Charley's Cabaret at Pacific Islands Club.

The foursome received special trophies for remaining active members of the league since its inception over 19 years ago.

Zapanta was listed as the 33rd player to register, while Omechelang signed in as the 66th, Lambon as 86th, and Aguon as the 105th player to join the league. There are currently well over 2,000 registered players that have signed up throughout the years.

Moreover, "Mr. SEDA" honors were given to Mario Espinoza, Rolly Morales, and Bernard Paras, while Omechelang and Beverly Ngirmekur were recognized as this season's "Miss SEDA" winners.

In addition, other postseason Bud Light Cup winners aside from what was previously reported on Monday included Tuesday B Division's 80 Proofers of SOS Bar & Grill and Sea Bridge; B Fanihi's SOS-DJ Fish; B Flame Tree's VFW Post 3457-Good Guys II; C Division's Bammy's restaurant-DRP; and Inter-Government division's Team CUC, also of Bammy's.

The 80 Proofers members include captain Romy Hernane, Jun Azarcon, Rolly Bermiso, Jeff Galvez, Leo Itaas, Sonny Lerio, and Jason Manuson.

DJ Fish is comprised of team captain Mario Espinoza with Jun Azarcon, Rolly Bermiso, Cliff Hamoy, Danilo and Julie Salinas, and Allan Avila.

Good Guys II is made up of captain Ray Cabrera, Elsie and Jun Cabrera, Anthony Camacho, Bob Castro, Jarvin Mendiola, Justin Mizutani, and Ferdy Ngirmekur.

DRP fields captain Ryan Paras, Dan Dela Cruz, Cliff Hamoy, and Brian Nelvis.

Team CUC members include captain Pat Taitano, Ray Cepeda Erwin Clavecillas, Greg Repeki, Jay Sablan, Joy Silva, Noel Unay, and Jesse Villar.

Team Sportsmanship honors went out to Master Division's Sabalu Boyz, of Bammy's; A Division's VFW-Primos; Tuesday B's K-1 Scorpions, of Poseidon; B Fanihi's Oneshot, also of Poseidon; B Flame Tree's Lilapuching, of Bammy's; C Division's V2 Shooters, of Oceanside Bar & Grill; Ladies League's Daffodils of Joe's Steakhouse; and Inter-Government's DPS-Bad Boyz, of Jonny's Bar & Grill.

MARPAC and SOS Bar & Grill also received special plaques of appreciation their sponsorships in the league.

This season's selected most valuable players, included master's Jun Olita, A Division's Mario Abo, Tuesday B's Bernard Paras, B Fanihi's Rod Osario, B Flame Tree's Blaren Castro, C Division's Jake Licop, Ladies' Aida Laniyo, and Inter- Government's George Sablan.

Individual top awardees included Master's Olita, A Division's Dean Borja, Tuesday B's Rolly Bermiso, B Fanihi's Bernard Paras, B Flame Tree's Ray San Nicolas, C Division's Richard Presinede, Ladies' Laniyo, and Inter-Government's George Sablan.

Hi-Out winners included Master's Julian Camacho (151), A Division's Manding Legaspi (143), Tuesday B's Dexter Mendiola (156), B Fanihi's Victor Borja (139), B Flame Tree's Manny Ada (120), C-division's Moody Zamora (135), Ladies' Matrina Lisua (146). and Inter-Government's Jess Villar (152).

Hi-In winners included Master's Olita (170), A Division's Jeff Pangelinan (170), Tuesday B's Barnard Paras (152), B Fanihi's Fred Salavaria, B Flame Tree's Justin Mizutani (160), C Division's Jake Ilago (160), Ladies' Laniyo (160), and Inter- Government's Jay Sablan (170).

CNMI

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placed fifth to advance to the finals, timing in at 25.87 seconds. Fiji's Roy Ravana led the qualifiers with the fastest time (21.60 seconds) in three heats. The finals of the 200m race was played yesterday afternoon and results were unavailable at press time.

Besides Pharmin and Abrams also seeing action in Day 1 of the Oceania championship were Lia Rangamar and Yvonne Bennett.

Bennett competed in the women's open 200m run and completed the race in 27.04 seconds, which is more than one second slower than her personal best and Micronesian record (25.67 seconds). The 22-year-old runner finished sixth behind Australia's Larissa Chambers (24.70 seconds), New Zealand's Zoe Ballantyne (24.97 seconds), Fiji's Suliana Batirau Gusuival (25.35 seconds), Australia's Amanda Morris (25.98 seconds), and New Zealand's Larissa Dyke (25.85 seconds).

Rangamar participated in the javelin throw and shot put. In javelin, she logged her best throw (35.31 meters) in her second try to place third behind New Zealand's Tori Peeters (45.49m) and the Cook Islands' Patricia Taea (37.40m). In shot put, Rangamar recorded 8.90m to finish seventh. American Samoa's Alexandra Morgan topped the event with his 12.45m.

Michael Mancao and Beo Ngirchongor were scheduled to race in the 400m run yesterday, but results of their heats were unavailable at press time.

Competition in the championship will continue today and tomorrow with Reylynn Sapong debuting in the U20 400m race this afternoon and later joining forces with Abrams, Bennett, and Rangamar for the women's 4x100m relay.

DYS

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canto, Bayani/DYS more than doubled DeMolay's production for a whopping 63-25 lead.

In the fourth quarter, there was no way DeMolay could catch up with Bayani/DYS or even slice the deficit to a decent number, as the latter kept its balance scoring, while the former was limited to another single-digit-production (9 points).

Nevim Salem paced Bayani/DYS with his 19 markers, while Bryle Alegre added 12, and Jack Aranda and Paul Mariano chipped in 10 apiece. Four more players contributed at least seven points each for Bayani/DYS, which kept its unbeaten record (3-0)

Prince Factor top-scored for the winless DeMolay (0-3) with 12, while Julienne Gotengco logged 10. The rest of DeMolay players were held to one field goal apiece.

Hi-Five/POWER 70, AON/Boholano 46

In the final game last weekend, Hi-Five/POWER also clobbered AON/Boholano.

Hi-Five/POWER pulled way at the start of the second half when it held AON/Boholano to 7 points in the third period, turning a 31-26 lead to a 50-33 advantage, entering the fourth quarter.

AON/Boholano was without a field goal for more than six minutes in the third period and settled for three free throws before making two baskets in the closing minutes of that frame. Gary Macahito, Reynald Cabaltica, and M.J. Aldan teamed up in Hi-Five/POWER's breakaway in the third quarter, scoring 6 points apiece in that canto.

Aldan added two more triples in the fourth quarter, while the rest of his teammates also hit their target to complete Hi-Five/POWER's domination of AON and improve to a 2-1 record. AON/Boholano fell to a 1-3 mark.

Cabaltica led Hi-Five/POWER with his 18 markers, while Macahito and Aldan finished with 14 and 12, respectively.

First Game

DYS/ Bayani 89 – Salem 19, Alegre 12, Aranda 10, Mariano 10, De Guzman 9, Camacho 9, Feria 9, Tudela 7, Villanueva 2.

DeMolay 34 – Factor 12, Gotengco 10, Yap 3, Bondoc 2, Leong 2, Borja 3, Mendiola 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-8, 46-19. 63-25, 89-34.

Second Game

Hi-Five/ POWER 70 – Cabaltica 18, F. Macahito 14, Aldan 12, Hockett 9, Urbano 7, F. Macahito 4, Apolinar 4, Atalig 2.

AON/Boholano 46 – Javier 11, Sanarez 10, Capuyon 8, De Leon 6, Yap 6, Lapuz 2, Hemley 2, Palacios 1.

Scoring by quarters: 10-11, 31-26, 50-33, 70-46.

670

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Natibu (12-1) and Man Amigos remain ahead of the pack with Manelos (7-4), Saipal (6-6), Familia (4-8), and Managaha (0-10) rounding out the rest of the standings.

670 Babes 11, Sakude 9

Sakude's Thelma Mizer drove in Liz Lebria in the opening frame, but 670 Babes hustled around two runs off costly errors in the bottom frame for an early, 2-1, lead.

Sakude briefly managed a 3-2 lead after chalking up a run in both the second and third innings off errors, but 670 Babes reclaimed the lead, 5-3, in the bottom of the third off an RBI single by Catalina Dela Cruz that scored Mel Benjamin and some errors. Benjamin led off the inning with a triple.

670 Babes contained Sakude again to just one run in the fourth and maintained its cushion, 6-4, in the bottom half thanks to another uncharacteristic error out in field by the reigning champs.

Sakude's Kikki Aldan brought home Bert Camacho for another run in the fifth, but 670 Babes raised the ante in the bottom frame and jumped ahead, 11-5, off five hits. Tani Masga belted a two-run home run, Edilynn Benjamin bagged an RBI single, and Mel Benjamin an RBI double.

Then after a scoreless sixth inning, 670 Babes held Sakude to four runs in the final stand.

Notably, 670 Babes whipped around two double plays in the game.

Warriors 12, 6-Pack 11

The Warriors worked out an early 2-1 lead after the first inning thanks to a pair of RBI singles by Chris Pangelinan and Henry Reyes.

Then 6-Pack broke out to an 8-1 advantage in the top of the second off six hits. Ken Tanzawa bagged an RBI base rip, while Mel Yamit lifted a sacrifice fly that was followed by an RBI single by Art Reyes and a two-run blast by Dan Repeki.

6-Pack's D.J. Omar belted a solo shot in the third inning, but the Warriors roared back to within a run, 8-9, in the bottom frame off five hits and some costly errors.

Joshua Garde and Sydney Kani busted RBI smashes and Fred Pangelinan airmailed a sacrifice fly.

The group held 6-Pack in the fourth and pulled in front, 11-9, in the bottom half thanks to a pair of doubles by McGary Scaliem and Darren Pua and a two-run homer from Chris Pangelinan.

Runs came at a premium after that point as 6-Pack only managed a pair of runs off errors in the sixth inning to tie the match, but Warriors Kani belted the walk-off single with one out in the last inning of regulation.

Chris Pangelinan batted 4-for-4 with three RBIs and two other runs.

Check it Out 17, Enamo Meta 2

Check It Out shot out of the gate to a promising 12-0 lead off seven hits sprinkled in between a number of errors by last year's runner-up team.

Seven runs came in off bobbles and wild throws, however Sandy Leon Guerrero ripped an RBI double, while Hermina Kelley and Keina Rogopes bagged RBI base hits.

Later in the third inning Check It Out's Jenelle Brel made it on and around off errors, while Connie San Nicolas drilled a two RBI single for a 15-0 margin that put the run-rule into effect.

Enamo managed a pair of runs in the top of the fourth, but Check It Out's Brel and Jovie Omar laid them to rest in the bottom frame with a pair of RBI smashes that secured the early decision.

Leon Guerrero swung 3-for-3 with two RBIs and two runs.

Ur Balls 16, X-clusive 8

Ur Balls broke a 3-all tie from the first inning with a solo blast in the second frame.

Audie Maratita then hit another homer in the third to put the team up, 5-3, before a 3-run jack made it 8-3 in the fourth inning.

Both teams traded a pair of runs in the fifth, and although X-cl usive managed to produce some offense in the late innings, it was never able to mount a real comeback as Ur Balls piled on six runs in the seventh inning.

Ur Balls tallied 15 RBIs off 20 hits in the game.

TSUNAMI

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kilometer race in 25:01 to share the top honors in the men's division this year.

Joining Kimura and Wong in the Top 3 were two other Tsunami Saipan teammates—Kaito Yanai and Takumi Sugie. The 13-year-old Yanai timed in at 27:10 to place second, while the 14-year-old Sugie finished third with his time of 28:31. It was Yanai's second time to compete in the Flipper race after ruling the 11 to 12 age group last year.

Kaito's two other brothers also joined the weekend race with the elder Hiroto prevailing in the 11 to 12 age group and the younger Ryuto winning the U10 age group. Hiroto posted a winning time of 29:10, while Ryuto recorded 36:09.

In the women's division, Tan earned back-to-back victories after clocking in at 27:06, less than a minute ahead of her closest pursuer—Yumi Ishiodori of Japan (27:44). Another Japanese swimmer, Hatsumi Watanabe, made it to the Top 3 in the women's division after clocking in at 28:39.

Tan won last year's race with a time of 24-56 but her fastest time came in 2010 when she emerged from the in 23:34. In her inaugural Flipper race in 2009, Tan submitted 24:37.

Duplicating Tan's first place finish was teammate Karen Irinaka, who won the girls U10 age group after logging 59:05.

Meanwhile, eight other swimmers took top honors in their respective age group. Japan's Yutaka Miyashita won in the men's 19 to 29 with a time of 31:42, Kaysutoshi Sakuma (30:01) prevailed in the 30 to 39 and Yasuhiro Kamikura (37:10) reigned supreme in the 60-and-above age group. Saipan's Tamio Nishikido claimed first place n the 40 to 49 division after posting 29:55.

In the women's division, Japan had a sweep with Yuko Watanabe (43:33) dominating the 19 to 29 age group, Makakiko Morishita (43:32) winning the 30 to 39, Ikue Takahashi (36:36) topping the 40 to 49, and Aiko Oshima (31:37) ruling the 50 to 59.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	45	28	.616	_
Baltimore	41	32	.562	4
Tampa Bay	40	34	.541	5 1/2
Boston	39	35	.527	6Ω
Toronto	38	36	.514	7 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	39	35	.527	_
Cleveland	37	36	.507	1 1/2
Detroit	36	38	.486	3
Kansas City	33	39	.458	5
Minnesota	30	43	.411	8 1/2

West Division

Texas	46	29	.613	_
Los Angeles	41	33	.554	4 1/2
Oakland	36	39	.480	10
Seattle	32	44	.421	14 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	42	30	.583	_
Atlanta	39	34	.534	31/2
New York	39	36	.520	4 1/2
Philadelphia	36	40	.474	8
Miami	34	40	.459	9

Central Division

Cincinnati	41	32	.562	_
St. Louis	40	35	.533	2
Pittsburgh	38	35	.521	3
Milwaukee	33	41	.446	8 1/2
Houston	31	43	.419	10 1/2
Chicago	26	48	.351	15 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	43	32	.573	_
San Francisco	42	33	.560	1
Arizona	37	36	.507	5
Colorado	28	45	.384	14
San Diego	27	48	.360	16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2012 SEDA Bud Light Winter/Summer Open Tourney

PHOTOS By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Jonny's Bar & Grill-AG Office's Sakude players pose with their first place Inter-Government division trophies during the SEDA 2012 Bud Light Winter/Summer Open Dart League awards banquet held last Sunday at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club.

Jonny's DPS-Bad Boyz won the second runner-up and sportsmanship awards.

VFW Post 3457's B-52 Shooters accept the runner-up trophy in the Ladies Division.

SOS Bar & Grill's DJ Fish swept the B Fanihi Division this year.

The individual Hi-Out winners of each division gather for a group photo.

Es'y Kitchen's Kamotes clinched its second consecutive Master Division title this year.

VFW's Maharot Crew won the Master Division Bud Light Cup championship this season.

Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Na'Gupu poses with their Tuesday B League first place trophies.

Jonny's Rehab took first place in the B Flame Tree division.

Jonny's Sparks won first place in the C Division this season.

Angels hit 4 homers in 7-3 victory over Orioles

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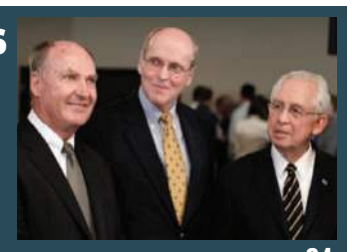
Saipan Tribune

Sports

Presidents approve college football playoff



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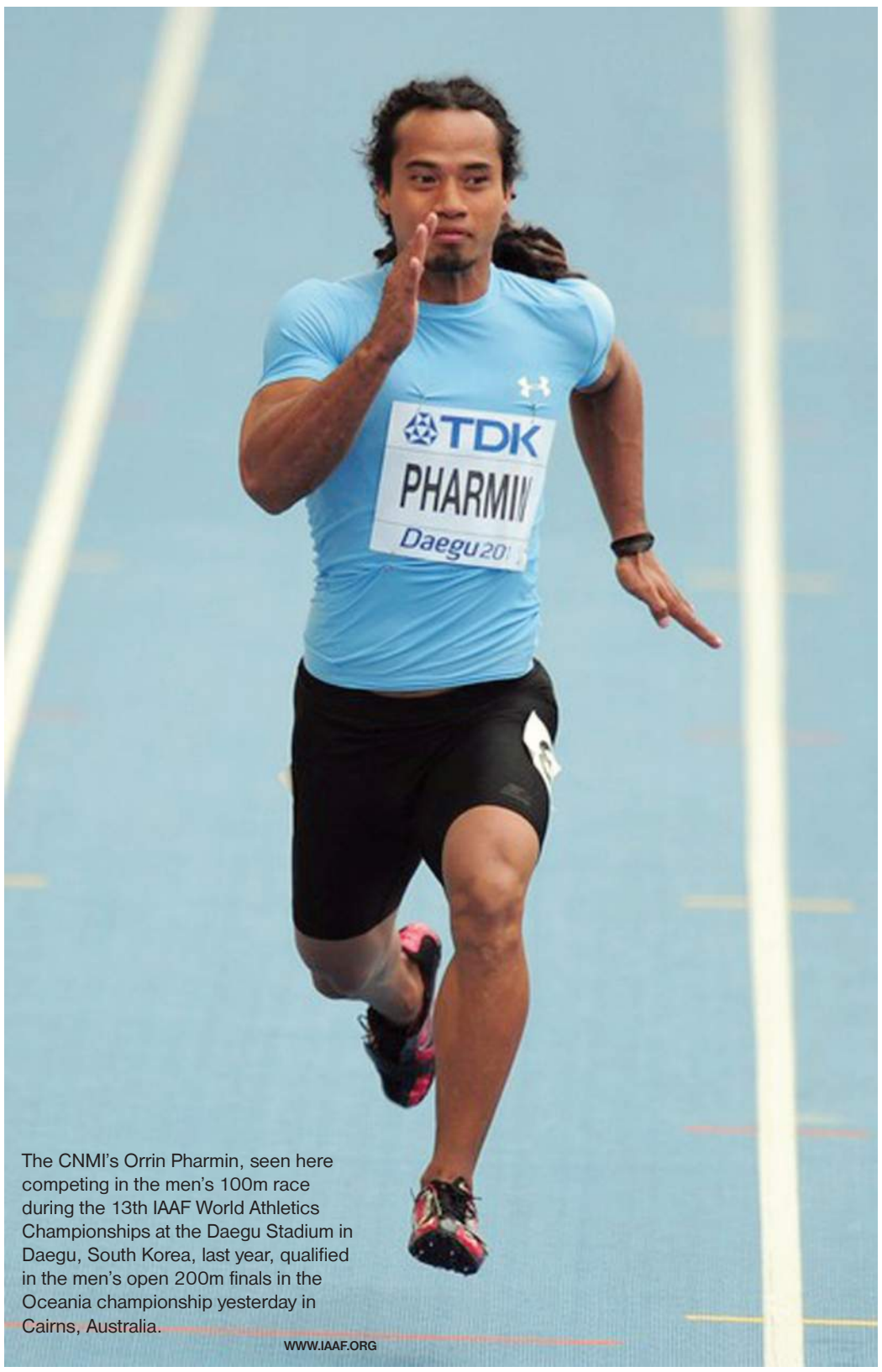
CNMI sprinters enter finals



The CNMI's Orrin Pharmin, seen here competing in the men's 100m race during the 13th IAAF World Athletics Championships at the Daegu Stadium in Daegu, South Korea, last year, qualified in the men's open 200m finals in the Oceania championship yesterday in Cairns, Australia.

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By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI runners Rachel Abrams and Orrin Pharmin made it to the finals of their respective races during the opening of the Oceania Regional Championships 2012 yesterday at the Barlow Park in Cairns, Australia.

Abrams competed in the U20 100m run and timed in at 13.09 seconds. She finished fourth on Heat 2 and beat runners from Guam, Tonga, Australia, and Papua New Guinea to qualify in the finals.

In the championship race, Abrams improved her time, as she almost broke the 13-second barrier after clocking in at 13:01. The 17-year-old sprinter also eclipsed the 13.40 seconds she registered in the 100m run in the 2012 Pacific Games in New Caledonia. The CNMI bet finished sixth out of 11 runners in the finals behind Nauru's Chrissa Detanamo (12.36 seconds), Fiji's Elenoa Sailosi (12.58 seconds), Australia's Cristina Smundin (12.71 seconds), PNG's Adrine Monagi (12.76 seconds), and the Cook Islands' Patricia Taea (12.78 seconds).

In the men's open 200m run, Pharmin was on Heat 2 and

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Tsunami Saipan continues reign in Flipper race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center continued its supremacy in the Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament with Rezne Wong, Kensuke Kimura, and Angel Marie Tan topping last Saturday's race around Managaha Island.

Wong, who ruled the 2009 and 2010 edition of the annual event, returned to the waters off the famous island after missing last year's race and this time crossed the finish line with his teammate Kimura who incidentally won last year's competition. The two Tsunami Saipan swimmers completed the 1.5-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center members pose with Japanese Olympic gold medalist Ai Shibata, standing left, after the 4th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament at the Managaha Island last Saturday.

DYS, Hi-Five rout U20 foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The pair of games in the U20 division of the 2012 UFO Docomo Pacific Cup had lopsided results with DYS/Bayani and Hi-Five/ POWER winning over their separate foes last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The league-leading Bayani/DYS crushed DeMolay, 89-34, dominating the game right at the very start, as the latter struggled with its offensive game.

DeMolay was held to 8 points in the opening quarter, while Bayani/DYS had a balance scoring with six of its player combining for 21 points for the team's early double-digit lead. Only three players made it to the scoreboard for DeMolay and no player hit more than one basket in the first period.

DeMolay continued their lackluster showing on offense in the second canto, while Bayani/DYS still drew points from every player it fielded in the game to erect a 46-19 halftime advantage.

The bad shooting night was not over yet for DeMolay, as it nailed only 6 points in the third period—its lowest output in a quarter. By the end of the third

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DYS/Bayani's Jack Aranda pulls up for a one-handed shot during their game against DeMolay in the U20 division of the UFO Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

670 Babes bump Sakude out of first place in CSA

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

670 Babes stunned Sakude, 11-9, in Monday's Chamolinian Softball Association-2nd Budweiser Softball League women's division matchup held at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

The win improved Babes' record to 5-3, while the reigning champions Sakude (7-3) fell to second place in the standings behind Check It Out (8-2) who cut up Enamo Meta (2-8), 17-2, last Friday.

The Rookies (1-7) make up the rest of the field.

In addition, Check It Out was leading Enamo Meta, 8-6 when rain caused a suspension of the game in the fourth inning back on June 20. The final men's pairing between Man Amigos (10-1) and Elias (5-6) was also rescheduled for a later date.

Over in the men's division, the Warriors barely made it past 6-Pack (2-8), 12-11, last Friday and evened its record to 6-6, while fourth ranked Ur Balls (7-3) downed X-clusive (4-7), 16-8, back on June 18.

Notably, men's Talu Fahn (2-12) endured a pair of forfeits to Berdax (7-5) and the G-Ballers (5-7) this past week, while Elias also absorbed a forfeiture to third place Gagu Eyez (9-2) last Friday.

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

670 Babes' Catalina Dela Cruz takes a cut in this file photo from earlier in the CSA 2nd Budweiser Softball League women's season at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.